

Jordan Times

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Mandela to maintain pressure

ALGIERS (R) — South African black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela said Friday he would tour European capitals starting on June 3 to insist that international sanctions must continue against Pretoria. He dismissed the South African government's abolition of racial segregation in most state hospitals as inadequate because it left gaping inequalities between black and white hospital workers. "Any country that now agrees the time has come to lift sanctions is either totally ignorant of what is happening in South Africa or is simply a supporter of apartheid," Mandela told a news conference at the end of a three-day visit to Algeria. South African President F.W. de Klerk is now touring Europe to seek support for his reforms aimed at giving blacks a say in political decision-making, but Mandela said it was soon to lift sanctions. "Apartheid is still in place. Nothing has happened in regard to its dismantling. The basic issue in our political struggle is giving every South African the right to decide his or her own affairs. We are still very far from that."

Gun assault assails settlement

TEL AVIV (R) — Settlement of some Jews in the Israeli-occupied territories has a major stumbling block to peaceful solution of Middle East problem, the head of a U.N. agency which helps Palestinian refugees said Friday. George Gheorghiade, co-director of UNRWA — the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East — said in a news conference: "We must believe in the freedom of people to go where they want. But feelings run very high among the Palestinians when they are told that they must go to the territories. I hear this from the Palestinians and from the Arab governments." He said it made no sense to say that the territories were new Jewish immigrants or established Jewish communities. A million Jews live in Israel and close to the border with Jordan, and the government has said it will allow Jewish Jews to travel throughout the territories. Gheorghiade, who called his visit to Jordan a "mission," said he would not return to Jordan to discuss guarantees that Jewish settlements would not go to the occupied territories. But he stressed that "Jordan's position is high."

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Mubarak meets Thatcher in London

LONDON (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Thursday night about the spread of weapons and missile technology in the Middle East, a government spokesman said. The talks, which were described by a spokesman for the prime minister's office as "extremely friendly," also covered the Middle East peace process and Libya. As he left the prime minister's 10 Downing Street office, the visiting president told reporters: "I hope that there will be some improvement in Britain's relations with Iraq." Britain's Ambassador Harold Walker flew back to Baghdad Thursday after being recalled following the execution of British-based journalist Farid Bazraf. Mubarak later met with Mrs. Thatcher at Downing Street. The Egyptian president arrived in Britain Wednesday from Moscow, where he talked with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. He was to leave for Cairo Friday.

Radicals oppose Iran liberalisation

NICOSIA (AP) — A senior Iranian cleric Friday urged authorities not to pity or forgive offenders who break social taboos, such as women wearing make-up or men in neckties. Tehran Radio, monitored by Nicosia, quoted Ayatollah Mousavi Ardebili as saying his government in Tehran that women who do not abide by the Islamic practice of covering themselves head to foot should not be shown mercy. "Not even the slightest pity or forgiveness must be shown to those breaking social taboos or displaying bad habits," said Ayatollah Ardebili, former head of the judiciary. A renewed crackdown on the hejab and "social corruption" was launched last week, despite President Hashemi Rafsanjani's statements that revolutionaries would cool in the effort to reconstruct Iran's war-torn economy.

Britain appoints new U.N. envoy

LONDON (R) — Britain announced the appointment Friday of career diplomat Sir David Hannay as its new ambassador to the United Nations. Hannay, 54, replaces Sir Cressie Tickell who held the post for three years and is retiring from the diplomatic service. Since 1985 Hannay was served as Britain's permanent representative to the European Community (EC) in Brussels. He entered the diplomatic service in 1959 and has also held posts in Kabul and Washington. Hannay will be replaced at the EC by John Kerr, 46, a senior official in the Foreign Office dealing with community affairs.

Baker writes to Arab League

TUNIS (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has written to the Arab League explaining Washington's position on the emigration of Soviet Jews and other Middle East issues before this month's Arab summit, diplomatic sources said. In a message to Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibi, Baker also gave explanations on Lebanon, Middle East peace moves and the situation in the Gulf, they added. The influx of Soviet Jews to Israel is expected to dominate the summit starting in Baghdad May 28.

Egyptian police hold 45 activists

CAIRO (AP) — Police Friday detained a total of 45 Muslim fundamentalists for attempting to stage demonstrations in Cairo and the southern town of Qena, the Middle East News Agency said. The agency said about ten people were arrested at a mosque in Cairo for attacking a preacher and for trying to organize a street march protesting the government's appointment of a new mosque preacher. The agency also reported from the southern province of Qena, 450 kilometers away from Cairo, that 35 members of the Muslim Brotherhood were arrested for taking to the streets in protest against security measures.

Pakistani premier shares concern over Jewish immigration and Jerusalem

King, Bhutto discuss West Asian situation

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Friday held talks believed to centre on the situation in West Asia, including the Arab-Israeli conflict and Afghanistan as well as the dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reporting the two leaders' meeting, said that the discussions covered bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. The agency did not give details, but earlier statements by Bhutto herself and other Pakistani and Jordanian officials have indicated that the Palestinian problem, Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories, the Afghan situation and the dispute over Kashmir were expected to figure high in the talks.

Prime Minister Mubarak Badran, who received the Pakistani prime minister upon her arrival here from Syria, said Jordan wanted to explain to her "what is happening in Palestine, what is happening with the excessive Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and its implications not only for the occupied territories and the Islamic world but also to the Arab and Islamic world."

Bhutto, who is here on the fourth leg of a tour of Islamic countries in a bid to seek diplomatic support for Pakistan in its dispute with India, also referred to the Middle East conflict and Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine. In an arrival statement, she said her country shared the concern of the Arab countries

"over the rising influx of (Jewish immigrants) to Arab lands and the new threats to Jerusalem."

Pakistan's ambassador to Jordan, Tariq Khan Afridi, told the Jordan Times this week that the Pakistani premier would "primarily discuss Kashmir's conflict as well as problems in the Middle East, including the colonisation of Arab lands by the new Jewish settlers."

The ambassador affirmed that Bhutto's talks with Jordanian leaders on Kashmir would not be "directed against any third party, including India."

Bhutto, who is accompanied by Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan, Minister of State for Defence Sarver Chima and senior officials as well as her businessman husband Asif Ali Zardari, renewed criticism against India in her arrival statement. "In Kashmir, a heart-rending tragedy is being enacted," she said, reading from a prepared statement. "Having waited in vain for more than 40 years for the U.N., India and Pakistan to fulfil their pledge to hold a plebiscite to choose between India and Pakistan, the people of Kashmir have risen up to overthrow Indian rule," she said.

Bhutto, the first woman prime minister of an Islamic country, reiterated Islamabad's position that international involvement was essential to resolve the Kashmir conflict, a call rejected by India, which insists that a bilateral agreement reached in 1972 should govern the issue. India accuses Pakistan of harbouring and arming Muslim separatists in Kashmir, a charge denied by Islamabad. The four-decade-old dispute broke out into open violence in January this year and has since claimed at

least 300 lives.

Both New Delhi and Islamabad have indirectly referred to the possibility of a war over Kashmir, but have also been careful not to further aggravate the situation, apparently opting for diplomatic solutions. However, many observers say that the already tense situation in Kashmir could further escalate and deteriorate if quick action was not taken.

According to Bhutto, a solution lies in the "fulfilment of the international commitment to support the exercise of the right of self-determination for the people of Kashmir."

Bhutto, who leaves Saturday afternoon, began her visit Tuesday in Iran, which strongly supports her country's position, and then travelled to Turkey, where she secured additional backing, before arriving in Syria Thursday. In Damascus, she held talks with President Hafez Al Assad and other Syrian leaders, but no clear indication emerged whether Syria, which recently warmed up relations with India, backed the Pakistani position.

According to reports, Bhutto is carrying the draft of a resolution which Pakistan intends to present to a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) in Cairo next month. The draft resolution, according to the reports, calls for Islamic support for Pakistan's stand over Kashmir, one third of which is ruled by Pakistan and the rest by India.

In their airport statements, both Badran and Bhutto described Jordanian-Pakistani relations as "very strong."

But it was not clear what kind of Jordanian response awaited the Pakistani leader in her quest for backing over Kashmir. A senior official said: "It is only natural that Ms. Bhutto would seek support from all friendly states, and it is our duty to listen to her since we ourselves seek support from friendly countries whenever necessary." The official did not elaborate.

Israelis kill 13-year-old, place thousands under siege

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers fatally shot a 13-year-old Palestinian boy during a clash with stone throwers Friday, police said. The boy, 13, was killed by a bullet fired from a soldier's rifle. The boy was the youngest of eight Palestinians killed in such confrontations this month. Two other victims were 14.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, an 18-year-old Palestinian was wounded in the leg after troops opened fire on stone-throwing protesters in the town of Khan Yunis, Arab reports said.

The new 30-member police unit established in Jerusalem is named for the biblical warrior Gideon, from the Old Testament

book of Judges, police said. Gideon was known for spying on the ancient Amalekites before waging surprise attacks.

Israel Radio said the unit would work undercover using plain-clothes experts, combat troops and intelligence officers who would mingle with Arab crowds to pinpoint trouble spots. Some agents will also patrol in cars bearing the same blue license plates as Arab-owned automobiles in the West Bank, the radio added.

Police officials said the move was largely an effort to contain a recent upturn in violent incidents in Arab Jerusalem. The city has so far been calmer than most of

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Call for 'transfer' of Palestinians linked to Shamir's coalition chance

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Friday faced demands from a crucial right-wing ally to hold a referendum on proposals for massive expulsions of Palestinians, as a condition for joining a new governing coalition.

Shamir's spokesman Yossi Abimeir, reacting in a telephone interview, said "even putting the idea on the agenda (for talks) is out of the question and inconceivable."

Shamir, the head of the right-wing Likud bloc, has another 21 days by Israeli law to try and build a coalition to replace the government that has toppled in a March 15 parliament vote of no confidence.

So far Likud has failed to reach agreement with any of its six potential rightist and religious governing partners for a majority in the 120-member parliament.

The main problems are conflicting demands for cabinet posts and conditions put by extreme right-wing parties to shelve U.S.-backed Middle East peace moves.

"Each party has its aspirations and demands and I have to worry about the overall picture," he said. "There are problems... I hope we shall overcome them and Israel would have a government."

Shamir has tentative agreements that would give him a majority in the 120-member parliament. But he has been unable to sign pacts with three ultra-right parties and three orthodox religious factions.

Shamir ran into trouble Thursday when the right-wing Tehiya Party announced it would not join his government because of Likud's failure to meet party demands for government posts.

"Tehiya decided not to join a Shamir-led government. The party will vote confidence in the government if Shamir presents it... we will give it a chance, and later we will vote according to specific issues," party leader Goulah Cohen said on Israel Radio.

Despite the tangled coalition negotiations with small parties, as well as over the next government's guidelines.

Islamists claim control of Zarga Municipality

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff

AMMAN — Islamists have secured an overwhelming victory in municipal council elections in Zarga, securing eight seats in the 10-member panel and claiming the support of another winner, leaving only one seat for a candidate described as a nationalist.

Official results announced Thursday showed that the "Islamic Action Bloc" clinched eight seats, with its leader Yasser Al Omari securing 9,735 votes out of a total of 21,953 votes cast. Mohammad Mousa Ghurwiri, who secured the third highest number of votes (6,338) under a "Zarga Islamic Bloc" platform, was supportive of the Islamic Action Bloc, thus giving Islamists almost total control of the first elected Zarga municipal council in 12 years, Omari told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview from the Zarga Community College, where he was celebrating his bloc's victory and receiving well-

wishers Friday evening.

The lone "nationalist" elected to the council was Ahmad Abu Khurma, who secured 4,730 votes — the 10th highest — against his nearest contender, another Islamic Action Bloc candidate, Khaled Shour, who won 4,430 seats.

"You can see that the difference was only 300 votes between the two," Omari told the Jordan Times. "The candidate who won the next highest number of votes (3,700) was a non-Islamist candidate, and this is only an indication of the Islamic Action Bloc's popularity," he said.

"We are decades-old residents of Zarga and we are totally aware of the city's problems, and every one knows it," Omari said, explaining the Islamists' strong showing in the city of 63,000 eligible voters and 450,000 residents. However, he could not offer any immediate explanation to the just-about one-third voter turnout for the elections despite a 24-hour extension aimed at drawing more voters.

The government is expected to appoint two members to the council, one of them a Christian, according to regulations governing municipal councils. The appointments are expected to be named before the newly-elected council's first meeting, which Omari expected to be held in two weeks.

Omari said it was up to majority decision by his bloc, which has a heavy Muslim Brotherhood content — five of its candidates are formal members of the Brotherhood — whether he should seek mayoralty of the town about 25 kilometres north of Amman, which has been run by government-appointed committees since 1978.

According to Omari, "there was very little coordination between the committees and the responsible authorities and this was the main reason for the chaotic situation in the city's civic services."

He said the new council would "work in total coordination with the Water Authority, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Telecommunications Corporation to improve services in the city." Water supply in the city is one of the major concerns of its residents, who

sometimes have to travel several kilometres to fetch drinking water.

"There are major flaws in the fundamental as well as administrative planning of the city, and we have to go deep into the field and come up with suitable solutions," Omari said.

Zarga is notorious for its narrow streets, traffic jams and irregular traffic despite intense efforts exerted by the local authorities.

"By no means is Zarga a poor city," Omari said. "Its annual municipal revenues exceed JD 5.5 million, and if properly utilised this could dramatically improve the city's public services."

Following is the list of the candidates who won the elections: ("Islamic Action Bloc" unless otherwise mentioned).
Yasser Al Omari, Abdul Bari Al Hamdan, Mohammad Mousa Ghurwiri ("Zarga Islamic Bloc"), Mamdouh Al Mbeisan, Saleh Daifallah, Mousa Al Zaghoul, Zuhair Al Deeb, Nabil Al Shishani, Mohammad Uqlah Al Ghurwiri and Ahmad Abu Khurma ("nationalist")

Ministry rescinds ban on male hairdressers

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Ministry of Interior has rescinded a decision taken last month to ban male hairdressers from working in beauty salons for women, ending a four-week controversy over the legality of the move.

Hairdressers Association President Anis Naber told the Jordan Times Friday that ministry officials told the association "during a meeting that the ban has been withdrawn and everything is back to normal." He said the executive members of the association were informed of the rescinding Wednesday.

Although Ministry of Interior officials refused to make any formal comment, one ministry official privately confirmed that the ban was no longer effective and the decision was withdrawn.


Minister of Interior Salem Massa'deh said last week that the ban was a compromise aimed at appeasing more "conservative" elements in society. He said the ban would only apply to men trying to get licenses to open new beauty salons. The minister could not be reached for comment Friday.

Naber said that the ministry had assured the association that anyone, male or female, could get a new license for a beauty salon "just like before."

A senior official, commenting on the decision, said he did not expect the ministry to make a formal announcement of the withdrawal of the ban "in order not to make a big issue out of the move."

The ban, seen as a result of pressure by Islamists, sparked a controversy in more moderate circles which prompted some groups, including women activists, to lobby against the move, describing it as a violation of constitutional provisions which stipulate equal rights for men and women in the Kingdom. Spokesmen for the Muslim Brotherhood, which has a strong presence in Parliament with the largest single bloc in the Lower House, welcomed the ban saying it would boost employment chances for women.

Several groups were involved in behind-the-scenes lobbying with the government to bring about a reversal of the decision. However, a 1980 Supreme Court decision against a similar decision adopted by the authorities in Irbid appeared to have been the dominant influential factor in the ministry's move to withdraw the decision.



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ARAB BANK
Muhajerin Branch
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British engineer dies under mysterious circumstances in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — A British engineer was found dead in his hotel room under mysterious circumstances, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported Friday.

The man was discovered Wednesday in his Novotel hotel room and doctors have yet to determine his cause of death, according to the INA report, which quoted an unidentified spokesman for the Ministry of Interior.

The agency identified the man as J. Gordon Glass but had no details about his age or family. The British embassy said it had no immediate comment at this stage of the investigation.

The embassy was immediately informed and it asked a British doctor working in Iraq to join the Iraqi team investigating his death at the Baghdad morgue.

Results of the examination will be made public when the team finishes its investigation, INA said.

The agency said Glass, an em-

ployee of Graham Johnson Machinery of Coventry, England, arrived on May 2 to fix machinery for an Iraqi plant belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation.

INA said he was accompanied by two other British engineers, but did not identify the nature of the Iraqi plant or the kind of machinery under repair.

There are 2,500-3,000 British engineers and businessmen in Iraq and many work in plants belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation, Iraq's prime weapons developer.

Most kept an especially low profile during demonstrations against the British embassy since relations between the two countries soured over the past two months.

Iraq hanged Farzad Bazoft, a London-based, Iranian-born correspondent for the Observer weekly, on spying charges on March 15. The British ambassador, withdrawn in protest, returned to his post Thursday.

Relations further deteriorated after Britain stopped two ships from Iraq's arms industry — one a super cannon and the other electronic parts that could be used in the trigger for a nuclear weapon.

Iraq denied the charges, saying the alleged gun parts were for the petrochemical industry and the electronic capacitors were for university research.

Many British businessmen working in Iraq joined their colleagues in the area in a conference in Kuwait last week to assess business opportunities due to the tension. British exports to Iraq reached \$700 million in 1989.

Meanwhile, Iraq has given Greece until the end of this month to release a steel tube impounded on suspicion of being

part of a giant artillery piece, Iraq's ambassador in Athens revealed Thursday.

Iraqi Vice President Tahar Yassin Ramadan sent Greek Premier Constantine Mitsotakis a letter on May 13 calling for a 30-tonne steel tube seized on April 20 to be released by the end of the month. Ambassador Fethi Al Khezreji told a news conference.

Iraq says the cylinder, impounded in the port of Patras, was part of an order from two British companies for a petrochemical plant in Iraq. Khezreji said that his government has invited Greek military experts to examine the plant.

British defence and customs officials have said that tubes impounded in Greece, Turkey and Britain may form part of a giant gun capable of firing nuclear and chemical weapons.

Other suspected parts of the gun have been found in Italy and West Germany.

Abie Nathan: Israeli minister met PLO

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan, under investigation for meeting PLO chief Yasser Arafat, has said a right-wing minister also met members of the outlawed Palestinian organisation.

Nathan was released on bail of \$5,000 Thursday after admitting he met Arafat in Tunis on a recent trip. He said he had seen records in Tunis of a London meeting between Justice Minister Dan Meridor and PLO Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials.

"I saw the file in Tunis. He met with two people in London," Nathan told Israel Television. The two were members of the PLO, outlawed in Israel as a terrorist organisation, he said.

Asked to identify the PLO officials, Nathan responded: "In the court I will tell the judge. These people are afraid that their names will be publicised."

Dan Meridor, a protégé of hawkish Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, told Reuters the accusations were false.

"I never met PLO leader, man or delegate in secret or in public," Meridor said. He said he was in London in November or December and addressed diplomats and foreign journalists at Chatham House, the Royal Institute for International Affairs.

Nathan arrived home from his latest talks with Arafat to receive a police summons at Ben Gurion Airport Wednesday. He reported to the police serious crimes unit and was taken to a magistrate's court for a bail hearing.

Afterwards, he told reporters he would meet Arafat again and again, and give his life to the peace cause.

"There is no punishment that bothers me or stops me. I am ready to do everything, even to give life," he said.

The Iranian-born Nathan was released from prison in February after serving four months of a six-month sentence for a previous meeting with Arafat.

"It is not a supreme law, it does not come from God... I would be a criminal if I respected that law," he said.

Amal makes new contacts over swap of Israeli bodies — ICRC

GENEVA (AP) — The Shi'ite Amal militia in Lebanon has made new contacts with the International Committee of the Red Cross concerning an offer to return the bodies of two Israeli soldiers in exchange for the liberation of Israeli-held Shi'ite prisoners, an ICRC spokeswoman said Friday.

"I can confirm that Amal has resumed contacts with us on the subject," said spokeswoman Martine Haemmerli, noting that ICRC had first been approached by both sides some time ago on the matter. She said she had no further comment.

An Israeli Defence official, who insisted on anonymity, said Thursday that Israel wants proof that Amal is holding the bodies before it was prepared to consider the proposal.

Such an exchange could encourage more releases of 16 Western hostages, including six Americans, held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian radicals.

After two U.S. hostages were freed last month, Iran and allied groups in Lebanon demanded a goodwill gesture, such as the release of prisoners held by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) which has more than 300 prisoners.

The Israeli official said Amal had been claiming for some time that it was holding the bodies but had never produced evidence.

"As far as we know the Amal organisation does not have the

bodies of any of our soldiers," he said. "If Amal believes the bodies are those of Israeli soldiers, let it first submit evidence to this effect. Only after we are convinced the bodies are in fact those of Israeli soldiers will there be room to negotiate the matter."

U.N. sources in South Lebanon disclosed Thursday that in early 1989 Amal leader Nabih Berri approached United Nations officials and offered to return Israeli bodies given to them by the PLO.

In exchange, Berri sought the release of Shi'ite prisoners held in Al Khiam, a prison controlled by the SLA in South Lebanon.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Berri never identified the bodies of the soldiers he was offering to trade. They added that Israel demanded proof and suggested evidence be given to representatives of the International Red Cross (ICRC).

The negotiations were halted after inter-Shi'ite battles broke out, and Israel kidnapped Shi'ite Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid.

Last week, SLA Commander Gen. Antoine Lahad rebuffed appeals to make prisoner releases solely to help Western hostages. He said three captured Israeli soldiers and missing militiamen from his own organisation would have to be part of any deal.

Only one of the seven Israeli servicemen missing in Lebanon has been held by the Syrian-

supported Amal. The others were believed to be in the hands of radical Iranian-backed or Palestinian groups.

Iranian-backed Shi'ite militiamen were believed to be holding two Israeli servicemen, Yossi Fink and Rahamin Alsheikh, captured in an ambush in South Lebanon in February 1986.

Shortly after their capture, Beirut newspapers printed photos purporting to show Alsheikh and Fink recovering from their wounds in hospital-type beds.

Navigator Ron Arad, whose plane was downed near Sidon in October 1986, was originally captured by Amal. But reports suggested Amal security chief Mustafa Dirani defected to Hizbollah with the airman.

Three soldiers missing since June 11, 1982 Battle of Sultan Yakoub — U.S.-born Sgt. Zachary Baumele, Sgt. Zvi Feldman, and Cpl. Yehuda Katz, were believed to be held by radical Palestinians. Samir Assad, another soldier missing since 1982, was "apparently killed," former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has said.

The radical Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has claimed that Assad was killed in a 1984 Israeli air raid on an island off Lebanon's northern port city of Tripoli.

In 1986, the Marxist group offered to exchange Assad's body for 50 captive guerrillas. Israel has turned down the offer.

Thousands march for ruling party in Algiers

ALGIERS, Algeria (R) — An estimated 100,000 to 200,000 people marched Thursday through central Algiers, singing patriotic songs and chanting for the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

Proclaimed as a "national demonstration of fraternity and solidarity," the march was intended as a reply to the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) and the pro-democracy movement, which organised similar, separate demonstrations during the past month.

By contrast with last week's pro-democracy demonstration, which drew about 100,000 people in pouring rain, the ruling party's

march was favoured by sunshine. The fundamentalists' march on April 20 drew an estimated 200,000 people.

Many of the marchers Thursday were farm workers and nearly all were men. Most appeared old enough to have experienced Algeria's eight-year war of liberation against France which ended 28 years ago.

It was the ruling party's first major demonstration since bloody riots erupted in October 1988 against unemployment, low living standards and the dictatorship of a self-appointed clique.

Traffic was at a standstill throughout the city centre as mar-

chers walked slowly for three kilometres from the 1st of May Square to the Square of the Martyrs, kept in line by officials with arm bands and megaphones. No violence was reported.

The demonstration took place three weeks before local elections scheduled on June 12, the first multi-party elections since independence.

The march was carefully organised by the National Liberation Front, which mobilised trains and buses from across the country to bring demonstrators to Algiers. By contrast, the Islamic march in April was held without assistance from state-owned transportation.

The official Algerian News Agency (APS) estimated the

number of marchers at more than 100,000. Police along the route guessed more conservatively there were "tens of thousands."

The news agency said the marchers were "re-living the independence celebrations of 1962 to protest firmly against the attempts to deprive the Algerian people of the history of its armed revolution."

The demonstrators carried thousands of Algerian flags and political banners, many of them directed against those who have amassed huge fortunes during the past 25 years. These fortunes caused much of the anti-government resentment which led to the 1988 riots.

Candidates feast voters in Kuwait election campaign

KUWAIT (R) — Huge tents decked out with coloured lights have sprung up around Kuwait as candidates for a new interim assembly seek votes with traditional Arab hospitality.

Sheep are kept in cages nearby, ready for slaughter for the evening meals the candidates serve to

supporters among the 65,000 voters of this northern Gulf state.

With its oil wealth, Kuwait is one of the biggest overseas investors in the Arab World.

Although the hospitality is in line with custom, the cost has raised some eyebrows. The daily Al-Siyassa pointed out such

largest might be beyond the means of some contenders.

In a quiet start to the campaign, however, press comment so far has been mostly criticism of a pro-democracy movement whose leaders say the new assembly will be toothless and call for a boycott of the June 10 poll.

Kuwait's last parliament, widely considered the liveliest in the Arab World, was dissolved by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in 1986 at the height of the Gulf war between nearby Iran and Iraq.

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18:25 A play by Shakespeare
19:10 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Consumer's Guide
22:25 Local programme
23:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:45 Le Monde est a Vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en France
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Surgical Spirit
21:40 Encounter
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Red Sundown"

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04:01 Fajr
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12:32 Dhuhr
16:13 'Asr

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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fine and winds will be northwesterly moderate to light. Winds will be northerly moderate and

seas calm.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 14 / 28
Aqaba 20 / 36
Dera 13 / 31
Jordan Valley 18 / 34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 11 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
ADMAN: Dr. Ahmad Al Daq 676473
Dr. Mahmoud Sheikh 663087
Dr. Rami Mazawi 894788
Dr. Issa Aoudal 679666
First pharmacy 601912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Neiroukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636750
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shimshel pharmacy 637680

EMERGENCIES

IBRD:

Dr. Subhah Al Zagh

Al Shams pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA: Dr. Abdul Karim Ghassabneh (985417)

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 603041
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630221
Hotel Complaints 605800
Police Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 891467
Complaints 775113
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information 121
(directory assistance)
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 661101
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television

Radio Jordan 773111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
Company 6612757
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khald Maternity, J. Amn 842816
Alsheikh Maternity, J. Amn 624412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642662
Mathas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsani 6641714
Shamsani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhsen Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdal 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdal 6641646
Italian, Al-Mahajira 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/26
Arby, Marja 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)980732

IBRD:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)275355
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)271700
AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
04:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
05:15 Agaba (RJ)
05:30 Cairo (RJ)
05:35 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
05:45 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
06:00 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
12:15 New Delhi (RJ)
12:15 Helsinki, Agaba (RJ)
16:00 New York, Montreal (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:45 Baghdad (JA)
10:05 Cairo (M5)
10:05 Riyadh (RJ)
12:30 Kuwait (RJ)
14:05 Rome (AZ)
17:30 Dubai, Damascus (EK)
20:00 Paris, Damascus (AF)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Agaba, Helsinki (RJ)
10:05 Tripoli (RJ)
11:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:00 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
12:00 Agaba, Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Cairo (RJ)
13:00 Baghdad (RJ)
19:00 Montreal, New York, Madrid (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:45 Beirut (M5)
10:05 Baghdad (JA)
10:05 Cairo (M5)
10:05 Riyadh (RJ)
12:30 Kuwait (RJ)
14:05 Rome (AZ)
17:30 Dubai, Damascus (EK)
20:00 Paris, Damascus (AF)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Sls per kg.

Almonds 500 / 400
Apple 800 / 700
Banana 500 / 450
Banana (Makmasa) 400 / 350
Beans 420 / 360
Broad beans 320 / 280
Cabbage 50 / 40
Carrot 320 / 280
Cauliflower 260 / 220
Cucumbers (small) 260 / 220
Dates 400 / 350
Eggplant 180 / 140
Garlic 520 / 450
Lemon 320 / 280
Lettuce (per unit) 150 / 140
Mallow 200 / 180
Marrow (large) 200 / 150
Marrow (small) 350 / 280
Onion (dry) 130 / 100
Onion (green) 200 / 150
Orange 380 / 300
Orange (Shamsani) 450 / 400
Pepper (hot) 150 / 100
Pepper (sweet) 150 / 100
Potato 900 / 750
Radish 150 / 100
Sage 400 / 300
Spinach 220 / 160
Tomatoes 200 / 150
Watermelon 200 / 120

Delegation drawn from cross-section of Americans plans 'peace pilgrimage' to Mideast

By F.Y. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A group of prominent Americans drawn from all walks of life and headed by two renowned former members of the U.S. Senate is expected to make what is billed as a "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" this month, according to informed sources.

A "position paper" adopted by the group, which begins the visit with a brief stopover in Amman May 22 enroute to Damascus, indicates that the main theme of the "peace pilgrimage" is more or less in line with the two-state solution endorsed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab World at large.

The 40-member group will be led by former senators Charles Percy (Republican — Illinois) and George McGovern (Democrat — South Dakota), and will include former presidential candidate and Congressman John Anderson (Republican), former senator and Arab-American leader James Abourezk (Democrat — South Dakota), and former members of the House of Representatives David Brown and Pete McCloskey as well as famous cinematographer Robert Redford.

Other members of the group include Canadian Parliament member Ian Waddell, journalist and former hostage Jeremy Levin, actor Mike Farrell, several leading religious figures from the Christian and Jewish faiths, heads of giant conglomerates, former high-ranking officials in the administration and other experts on the Middle East.

According to the group's "position paper," a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times, the delegation notes that "while the intifada has brought attention and increased appreciation for the plight of Palestinians and the depth of Israeli fears, there has not yet been enough momentum for a peace process, especially in the halls of Congress and the White House."

Underlining an awareness that "American citizens will have to lead the way for our political representatives," the delegation asserts that "a just and moral course of action is not likely to be taken without vigorous public support." It calls for an "independent Palestinian state alongside the State of Israel" through "respect and utilisation of U.N. resolutions... particularly... (Security Council Resolutions) 242 and 338..." and emphasises that an "international peace conference, under the supervision of the U.N. and the permanent members of the Security Council, is the vehicle best equipped and most acceptable to members of the international community."

It was not immediately known whether meetings were scheduled with leaders of the countries included in the "pilgrimage" — Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Israel. Informed sources said the team was seeking meetings with Palestinian leaders in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The delegation will arrive in Amman May 22 for transfer to Damascus and return to the Jordanian capital on May 25 enroute to Cairo. It formally begins a visit to Jordan on May 29 and crosses over to the occupied territories and Israel May 31. After spending four days there, the group will return to Amman June 5 and will leave the next day.

The high point of the "pilgrimage for peace" will be when the delegation will offer a prayer for peace in the Middle East during its visit to the Holy Land.

The trip is organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax World

Foundation in coordination with the Cyprus-based Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) and its representatives in the countries in the region.

According to Kjell Jonasson, the MECC representative in Amman, efforts are under way to schedule meetings between the delegation and Jordanian leaders and senior officials. One of the major impediments is the hectic preparations for the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 28.

Jonasson said a panel discussion between the delegation members and Jordanian officials and politicians was also being planned, but it was premature to offer details.

Ideas were also explored earlier whether the delegation could join an international peace march organised by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) and scheduled to take place in early June. However, the idea fell through when the ADC decided to postpone the event until Nov. 29, officials said.

Following is the full list of the members of the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" delegation:

Co-leaders: Former U.S. senators Charles Percy and George McGovern;
Pax World Foundation facilitators: G. Charles Rhoads, Charolett Goodwin and Laura Barnitz;
Mission Coordinator: Jamil Shami

Reuben Aaronson: Cinematographer

James Abourezk: Former U.S. senator

John Anderson: Former member of Congress

Norman E. Barth: Executive director, Lutheran World Relief

Michael Beard: President, National Coalition to Stop Gun Violence

Leonard Beerman: Rabbi

David Brown: Former member of the U.S. House of Representatives

David Boyer: Professional writer, photographer, retired from National Geographic

Charlotte Feinberg Brody: Trustee, Feinberg Foundation

Frank Breckbill: Board member, Houston United Nations Association; Founder, Building Peace Bridges

Carole Breckbill: Hermann Hospital, Houston, Texas

Leonel J. Castillo: Head of immigration under President Carter; Chairman, Hermann Hospital, Hispanic community leader

William Peter Clay: Assistant to Ian Waddell, member of Canadian Parliament

Scott Cohen: Consultant, Scott Cohen & Associates

Rita Cohen: Spouse

Hilary Esmonde-White: International foreign policy and trade analyst

Patrick Esmonde-White: Editor, New Voices Radio

Mike Farrell: Actor, political activist

Barbara Good: Retired U.S. foreign service officer, vice president, National Woman's Party

Neal Keny: Former director of Middle East Affairs, Save the Children

Arthur Kobacker: Chairman Pickway Shoes, the Shoe Works, Gussini Shoes

Saul Landau: Senior fellow, Institute for Policy Studies

Jeremy Levin: Former CNN news bureau chief and hostage in Lebanon

Barbara Lubin: Executive Director, Middle East Children's Alliance

David Mahsman: Reverend, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Robert J. Marshall: Retired bishop; president, Lutheran World Relief

Robert Marx: Rabbi

Nassim N. Matar: H & O Properties

Tom McBurney: Executive vice-president/chairman of Pillsbury Foods International; former chair, Minnesota Public Radio

Pete McCloskey, Jr.: Former member of U.S. House of Representatives

Mark Percy: Vice-president, Charles Percy & Associates

Diane Porter: Episcopal Church Centre

W. Burkette Raper: President, Mount Olive College, North Carolina

Rose Raper: Spouse

John B. Ray: Professor, political geographer, Middle Tennessee State University

Katherine T. Ray: Philosophy/Religion Dept., Middle Tennessee State University

John Rogers: Catholic Priest

Abdul Aziz Said: Professor of international relations at the American University

Richard Schaeffer: Lawyer, Frank Bernstein, Conaway & Goldman

Woodrow Seals: Senior judge, Texas

Kamelah Shami: Educator

Ian Waddell: Member of Canadian Parliament

Barbara Wiedner: Founder, Grandmother for Peace

Following is the "position paper" adopted by the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" delegation:

While the intifada has brought attention, and increased appreciation for the plight of Palestinians and the depth of Israeli fears, there has not yet been enough momentum for a peace process, especially in the halls of Congress and the White House. As in other calamitous incidents throughout our recent history, such as the Vietnam war and the excessive nuclear buildup, it is apparent that American citizens will have to lead the way for our political representatives. A just and moral course of action is not likely to be taken without vigorous public support.

Therefore, we, clergy of all religions, political figures, former members of Congress, ambassadors, foreign service officers, public officials, academicians, civic leaders, physicians, attorneys, scientists, writers, journalists, and other professionals declare through our participation in the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" our support of the following:

— An independent Palestinian State alongside the State of Israel. The sovereignty of both peoples must be respected and protected.

— The respect and utilisation of United Nations resolutions towards enhancing the efforts of peace in the region, particularly U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, which must be considered the legal and political grounds for an acceptable solution to both sides of the conflict.

— The resolution of the conflict must be achieved only through non-violent means. The international peace conference, under the supervision of the United Nations and the permanent members of the Security Council, is the vehicle best equipped and most acceptable to members of the international community.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Thursday receives a Chinese delegation led by Deputy Mayor of Peking Kuwang Chao for discussions on bolstering cooperation between the two countries' capitals (Petra photo)

Peking, Amman to boost cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-member delegation led by Deputy Mayor of Peking Kuwang Chao Friday went for a visit to the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley and the Greco-Roman archaeological town of Jerash in the company of officials from the Amman Municipality.

A Chinese embassy official told the Jordan Times Friday the delegation members would visit Saturday several development projects carried out by the Amman Municipality and would hold further talks with municipal officials on cooperation between Amman and Peking in city planning and other projects.

The delegation members, who arrived in Amman Thursday, were received by Prime Minister Mudar Badran with whom they discussed areas of cooperation between the two capitals. The delegation leaves for home Monday.

Agreement was reached at the initial meeting on the implementation of an international garden in Amman through joint cooperation. "Formal agreement on this project would be concluded in Peking at a later date," according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Suheimat briefed the delegation on various aspects of development in Amman over the past four decades and later accompanied the delegation members on a tour of the Roman amphitheatre and other projects and gardens inside the capital. The delegation leaves for home Monday.

Farmers to have new federation

AMMAN (J.T.) — All farmers and citizens working in the agricultural fields will be entitled to join the projected Jordanian farmers federation which will come into being once it has been approved by the government, according to Minister of Agriculture, Suleiman Arabiyat.

In a statement published by the press the minister said a draft law on the new federation had been finalised and now awaits official government endorsement before further measures can be taken for its formal establishment in Jordan.

"Once it has been set up, the federation, the first of its kind in the Kingdom, will create branches in all governorates including the Jordan Valley region," Arabiyat said following a meeting by the higher agricultural council on Wednesday.

The council, meeting under Arabiyat's chairmanship, was also attended by ministers of supply, water and irrigation and municipal and rural affairs and the environment.

Arabiyat was quoted as saying that the meeting defined sources for financing the federation's activities which will benefit all farmers' societies in the country.

Projects in south seek to improve people's lives

TAFLEH (J.T.) — The beginning of June will witness the start of several development schemes in the Tafleah governorate designed to help alleviate the negative effects of this year's drought and the present unemployment, according to Tafleah Governor Khalaf Al Mahameh.

The governor said that as of the first of the coming month work will begin throughout the governorate of Tafleah on maintenance of roads, development of water springs, building of agricultural roads, planting of fruit and forest trees and repairing canals, projects which are bound to improve the economic situation and employ further numbers of citizens in the governorate.

He said that JD 100,000 have been received out of JD 500,000 allocated for development projects according to plans announced by Prime Minister Mudar Badran during his visit to the Tafleah governorate last March.

NCHA held first meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Nayef Ben Zaid has said the establishment of the National Council for the Handicapped (NCHA) reflects the extent of attention paid to the handicapped in Jordan and the endeavours to develop the services offered to them.

Chairing the first meeting of the NCHA Thursday, Prince Nayef stressed the need to discuss the law related to the handicapped, affairs and the proposed amendments in order to conclude a supplementary law.

Minister of Social Development, Abdul Majid Shareideh said the ministry does its best to provide services to the handicapped in cooperation with other ministries and departments.

"During the meeting, discussions dealt with all matters related to promoting services provided to the handicapped."

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

• Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shamm Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

• Art exhibition by students of Nazareth Sisters School at the French Cultural Centre.

• Art exhibition by Husein Abu Elmagdy at the Alfa Art Gallery.

• Exhibition of paintings depicting national heritage, nature and the Arab woman by Laila Al Shawarbi at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.

• Exhibition of paintings by Kamel Barakat at Goethe Institute.

LECTURES

• Lecture by Dr. Mohammed Javed Rida entitled "oil, education, and the upcoming international struggle in the Arabian Gulf" at Abdul Hameed Shamm Foundation at 6:30 p.m.

SEMINAR

• Opening of a seminar on improving media directed at the handicapped at the radio and television building at 10:30 a.m.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Alla attends horse show

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Alla Friday attended the Arabian horse show, held at the royal stables in Hammar to raise funds for the Friends of the Liver Patients Society. Princess Alla said that horse-riding was one of the most beautiful and useful kinds of sports. Princess Alla said horse-riding was part of the Arab heritage and called for directing special care to original Arabian horses and training them to participate in world horse shows. The event is designed to raise funds for the Friends of the Liver Patients Society, to enable it undertake the necessary studies and support the health education programmes at schools and camps.

ACC transport ministers meet Tuesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The general secretaries at the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministries of transport will hold a meeting in Amman Tuesday. The discussions will deal with setting a mechanism and formulas for the implementation of the cooperation agreement the ACC countries signed recently in Amman, which deals with cooperation in land transport of people and goods. The conference, will furthermore, define the subjects and recommendations to be presented to the ACC ministers of transport during the meeting they will hold in Amman in June.

Jordan, Tunisia to boost media relation

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia, Talal Al Hassan Friday discussed with Tunisian Director-General of Radio and Television Saladdin Ma'awyeh means to bolster bilateral

relations in the information media. The Tunisian official praised the existing cooperation saying that during the past few years Jordan's programme and television production occupied an outstanding role in the Arab markets.

Bakhit chairs Euro-Arab talk committee

TUNIS (Petra) — Permanent Arab representatives to the Arab League, meeting here to discuss preparations for a Euro-Arab dialogue symposium which will be held in Amman early next year, selected Adnan Al-Bakhit, vice-president of the University of Jordan for Planning and Community Development Affairs, as chairman of a special committee, which has recently been established to devise means for enhancing Euro-Arab cooperation in the cultural and social fields as well as technical and vocational training and narcotics control.

UNRWA veterans honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Ele Saaf Thursday handed over testimonials and medals to seven UNRWA employees in Jordan who have served for 40 years, according to a press release issued by the agency. The old timers joined UNRWA on May 1, 1950 when it started operations. UNRWA has some 18,000 staff members in its area of operations namely Jordan, Syrian, Lebanon, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as in its headquarters in Vienna. UNRWA provides education, health and relief services for some 2.3 million Palestinian refugees registered with it.

Police nab robbers

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Egyptian national living in Amman and two of his accomplices have been arrested within hours of stealing a car and large amounts of cash from inside it, according to a report in the local press Friday. A 21-year-old Egyptian and two of his accomplices stole a car belonging to B.Kh.J. from Um Uthman district while it was parked near the Akhlayeh School for Girls on May 15, according to the report.

It said that the car owner had kept a briefcase inside the car containing \$25,000, JD 7,000 in cash and JD 18,000 in cheques. The three thieves stole the car, drove it to Hay Nazzal district, took away the briefcase and shared the money before abandoning the car which was later found by police patrols in the

area, the report added. It said that the Egyptian, identified by police only as A.T.H., who used to work for the car owner and accompany him in the mornings to take his children to school in Jabal Amman, had known all along that his employer carried the money in the briefcase and soon had a duplicate made for the car key which was later used by the three thieves, the report said.

It said on the day of the robbery, the Egyptian and the car owner locked the parked car and accompanied the girls to the school only to return later and find it had vanished.

The Egyptian worker had to admit to having plotted the robbery, with the other two and this led to their immediate arrest and the restoration of the stolen money.

ANNOUNCEMENT

With deep sorrow the Spanish Embassy wishes to communicate the demise of the Defence Attache, Col. Wenceslao de Moya.

A condolences book will be opened at the Chancery of the Embassy on Thursday the 17th and Saturday the 19th of May 1990, between 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION SILENT AUCTION SILENT AUCTION

American Community
School

Saturday May 19, 1990

7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Refreshments !! Silent Bids !!
LIVE AUCTION AT 9:00 P.M.

Come & bid on items offered by
The American Community School families
& the Amman business community

Over 200 items!!

Ticket Cost 2 J.D.

RESIDENT MANAGER - EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR U.S. MULTINATIONAL PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY

- The Resident Manager for this major U.S. Multinational Petrochemical Company will be responsible for the successful management of the company's petrochemical business in several East Mediterranean countries. This includes achievement of challenging business objectives, development of new business opportunities and coordination with major industries in the area.
- The position reports to the Company's Headquarters in Europe and enjoys considerable autonomy.
- Ideal candidate should be at least 35 years of age with a minimum of 10 years sales and/or marketing experience in the petrochemicals and plastics industry. Fluency in Arabic and English is mandatory.
- Office location is open.
- Attractive compensation package, company car, other benefits.
- CV in English should be sent to P.O. Box 910078, Amman not later than June 1, 1990, addressed to the General Manager mentioning "Re vacancy Multinational Petrochemical Company".

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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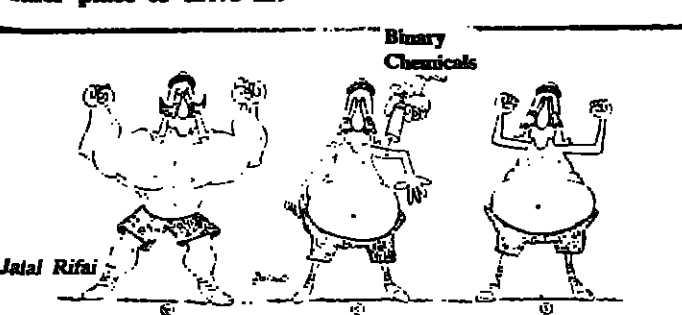
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

'Stop' must mean stop

ON THE occasion of World Traffic Week which fell on Sunday banners are beginning to appear on major thoroughfares in Amman reminding drivers that a "stop" sign means a complete stop and not a license to cross intersections without as much as a wink. This is a good start but hardly enough. It is a foregone conclusion that ignoring Stop signs is a major contributor to traffic accidents, and it is too obvious to deserve a comment. Jordanian drivers are notorious for turning a blind eye to "Stop" signs and part of the blame goes to our traffic authorities who are more preoccupied with parking violations than with drivers who whizz through "Stop" signs in utter disregard for normal driving habits.

Granted that educating drivers about the significance of traffic signs must go on with vigour and determination but that alone is not likely to stop one of the major reasons for traffic accidents in the country.

If one examines the record of traffic violation tickets that police met out to drivers periodically there are hardly any mention of "Stop" sign violations. In this vein, the traffic department becomes an accomplice to the raging traffic crisis. There is no sliver of doubt that had our traffic department been more concerned about "Stop" signs, it would have conducted a much more determined effort to eliminate its contravention with relative ease. Post traffic police at random "Stop" signs and watch the number of traffic violation tickets that could be given to drivers who pass through them undeterred by all the rules and regulations governing them. Perhaps the banners festooning the streets of urban areas in the Kingdom suggest that a more vigorous policy against "Stop" sign violators is in the offing. If this is true, then drivers and pedestrians alike have a reason to rejoice. If not then the concerned authorities are respectfully invited to attend to this problem in a much more forceful way. Insurance companies can also be invited to share in the effort to change Jordanian driving habits by hiking insurance premiums on those who are caught violating "Stop" signs. Jordanian drivers can also lend support to the campaign to stop the violation of "Stop" signs by driving more reasonably when crossing the roads and highways of the country. In the final analysis, it is they, the drivers and their passengers, who stand to benefit most from this new policy. Is there a better way to observe the message of Traffic Week than to have all Jordanians cooperate with the traffic department to make Jordan a safer place to drive in?



JORDANPRESS EDITORIALS

Commenting on a statement by the first deputy prime minister of Iraq in Cairo about Israel's plans to launch an aggression on Iraq, Al Ra'i daily said that there is no alternative for the Arab... to mobilise their forces behind Iraq to confront Israel's adventures. The paper said that Iraq is not only defending its own soil, but rather the Arab Nation as a whole; and it is the duty and responsibility of the Arabs to pool their forces and deter aggression. The paper said that it is incumbent on all Arab states to take part in the coming summit in Baghdad because such a summit will not be a mere political demonstration, but rather a real show of unity and platform for joint Arab action in the face of enemy conspiracies.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily writes on the new municipal council in Zarqa and says that its election came amidst an atmosphere of democratisation now going on in the Kingdom. Now that the council has been elected, the people of Zarqa and surrounding areas are looking forward to a new city and a reconstruction process which would reflect the slogans raised by the candidates who won in the elections, according to Badr Abdul Haq. The writer says that the streets of Zarqa are in dire need of rebuilding, the Zarqa children need gardens to play and the city's cultural and social institutions and youth clubs require a new life. This is the task of the new municipal council elected in a democratic manner on Tuesday and Wednesday, says the writer. The council members he says are facing a formidable task of refurbishing their city, and making it a safer and more pleasant town for its own citizens and visitors.

Al Dustour daily criticised with bitterness the United States and the Soviet Union for what it says their collusion to cause harm to the Arab Nation. The paper said that as Washington helps and encourages the process of Soviet Jewish immigration into Palestine it tends to give lip service to the Arabs to appease their anger over the situation. The Soviet Union for its part is providing manpower necessary to fatten Israel and to enable its leaders to carry out their aggressive plans in the Arab region, the paper noted. It said that instead of calling on the United States and other countries to end their support for Israel, the Soviet Union is creating a problem for the world community and asking the U.N. Security Council to solve it. The paper said that the recent developments in the immigration question should provide sufficient proof to the Arabs that the superpowers only care for their own interests, and do not have any regard to the principles of justice and right.

View From Amman

Charles de Gaulle in his century

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

THROUGHOUT history very few men have had the great honour of having their name stamped on the socio-economic and political doctrine they believed in and advocated. Charles de Gaulle of France was one of this select few with "Gaullism" representing the doctrine he advocated. This year, his beloved France is celebrating his centennial, honouring not only the man himself, but the legacy he so confidently institutionalised in the founding of the Fifth Republic.

With the theme of "De Gaulle In His Century", a series of symposia are scheduled throughout 1990 designed to focus on the elements of stability he introduced into French political life, as well as his impact on Europe and the world at large. One such symposium focusing on his impact on domestic politics was recently held at the now restored great Abbey of Fontevraud in The Loire Valley. The grandeur of the venue of the meet-

ing was befitting the man who, perhaps more than any other Frenchman since Louis XIV, left his mark on France, Europe and the world.

Though a man of mood and charisma, he had a vision of the future. The future not only of his nation, but of the world as well. The vision he held, he executed in a series of policies on the international level and in the institutions he founded at home.

On the international level, he was quick in realising the dangers emanating from the bipolarisation that occurred in the wake of the Second World War, between East and West; thus his policy of independent of Washington and the NATO alliance, emerged. While he was vilified by many Americans, sometimes even ridiculed, for this independent line, his policy had at least three major historical consequences. It provided an alternative to the Soviet bloc within the Western camp, thus reduc-

ing the level of international tension, while at the same time, it tended to deflate American arrogance of power by forcing the United States to think twice before initiating any more that might result in confrontation. In an intensely ideological area, his often anti-American pronouncements made anti-Americanism respectable at a time when anyone holding such sentiments was accused of being communist. This, in turn, made non-alignment of Third World countries acceptable. If France could be non-aligned, why was it then not possible for other countries to do so? The third consequence of his independent policies was his paving of the way for the creation of the future European power bloc which is still in the making.

The emergence of the Europe of the 1990s and beyond, was facilitated by two ideas that de Gaulle held. First, France, indeed the west, must divest itself of its colonies

and reestablish relations with the new emerging nations on a new footing. Otherwise, France would be involved in long liberation struggles that would be both costly and exhausting. In the back of his mind, de Gaulle was aware of the lessons to be learned from France's involvement in Indo-China and Algeria. Against great odds, he taught the French political right, long the backbone supporting colonialism, that France's greatness of the future must depend on ideas, on culture, not the subjugation of other peoples.

His second idea, in which again he succeeded, was the rehabilitation of Germany into the community of Europe, indeed the world. His respect and friendship with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer were the cornerstone of the new Franco-German relationship. This policy, often overlooked by observers, continues to have the greatest impact an international politics. It was not easy

to convince the French, of the left or the right of their political spectrum, that the traditional enemy, indeed the nightmare of France could be trusted, indeed as events later proved, turned into a reliable ally and friend.

De Gaulle's domestic policies were of momentous consequence as well. Like his contributions in the international area, here again, only a few can be pointed out. Perhaps his greatest contribution was the rehabilitation of the French political right for the first time since the Glorious Revolution of 1789. Since the "Ancien Regime", the French right had been discredited, radical and almost always on the fringe of respectability. It is now possible to be non-gauche and respectable at the same time.

Gaullism created a mainstream current somewhere to the right of centre that became successful in attracting certain

radicals from both poles, left and right, towards the centre. This social reconciliation, occurring again for the first time since the fall of the Bourbons, became the basis not only of the present political stability, but social peace and economic prosperity as well. It ended up by making it possible not only to combine the right and democracy as was the case with de Gaulle himself, but also democracy and the left as well as is the case with Francois Mitterrand. He did not pull the rug from under the feet of either side, he merely placed one in the middle.

It is a vision and principle that distinguishes a statesman from a politician or a mere ruler. De Gaulle had both. De Gaulle succeeded like no other Frenchman in changing the direction of France's destiny so it would remain for a long time to come a positive force and a bulwark of stability in international politics.

Right of Return March:

Catalyst to Arab solidarity

By Lamis Andoni

THE "RIGHT TO RETURN" march by thousands to the bridge across the River Jordan last Monday which turned into the biggest display yet of solidarity with the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories is viewed by organisers as well as analysts as a potential launching point for the mobilisation of an all-out Arab popular movement in support of the anti-occupation revolt.

"We expect the march to break the unforfeitable silence and stagnation in Arab support for the intifada," commented an Arab participant in the march who said he was very encouraged to witness such a rally of solidarity in a frontline state.

In fact, the "reactivation" of the role of the Arab masses and popular organisations was cited as one of the main objectives of the march by its organisers — Jordan's influential professional associations and unions. Another objective, they said, was to build popular Arab pressure on Arab governments to effectively extend financial support for the intifada.

An equally important goal was to draw Arab and international attention to the dangers inherent in the massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the fact that the threats are not limited to the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since Jordan could find itself at the receiving end of a forced Palestinian exodus to the East Bank — a prospect against which His Majesty King Hussein has repeatedly warned.

To emphasise the danger confronting Jordan, banners and slogans raised during the massive march to the bridge included this very pointed slogan: "Soviet Jewish immigration equals Palestinian transfer."

Arab and Jordanian political activists emphasised the need for effective Arab support for Jordan's steadfastness "at this point in time more than ever, particularly that Israel must be very much disturbed by the democratisation process in the Kingdom."

"If it was not for the democratisation in Jordan, this march would not have been possible," said an Arab writer who was in Jordan a few days before the event. "Such popular mobilisation must be very worrisome to the Israeli leaders who have always viewed Jordan as a buffer state."

Most analysts agree that the democratisation era is transforming Jordan into a catalyst for increased Arab interaction with the intifada. Seen in light of such viewpoints, it was not a coincidence that the "Right of Return March" was preceded by a two-day conference in support of the intifada and to discuss the means to counter the repercussions of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel.

The conference was attended by about 70 nominated delegates from professional associations and unions from the Arab World who also took part in the march as representatives of their popular organisations.

In a final statement, the participants in the conference called on Arab states to fulfil their financial pledges towards supporting the intifada and undertook to organise demonstrations of solidarity with the Palestinian people and activities aimed at raising funds for the intifada by popular organisations in other Arab countries.

These calls were reinforced by the "Right of Return" marchers, who condemned in their chants the "official Arab silence and repression." At one stage during the march, several groups of young people sang improvised songs containing scathing criticism of some Arab countries which have failed to provide sufficient support for the anti-occupation revolt

being waged in the West Bank and Gaza.

The slogans officially endorsed by the organisers of the march were harsh against the American policy but did not contain any attack on any Arab country. Instead, there was a call for the revival of the "Eastern Front."

In an apparent bid to influence the participating Arab organisations into pressuring their governments to endorse a unified Arab position in support of the intifada and the Palestinian quest, the organisers of the march arranged a visit to the bridge earlier in the day. It was confined to leaders of Arab professional associations and a number of Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities.

Stunned Arabs

The visit proved to be a very moving experience for many. "I had never been to the bridge before," said an Iraqi union leader. "To see the Israeli army controlling Arab land and preventing the indigenous people from returning to their land was an experience in itself," he commented to the Jordan Times. "It is always more effective to see than to hear about tragedies."

A delegation from Tunisia, which arrived a little late for the visit, was equally "stunned," according to a Jordanian activist who accompanied the team. "They were barely able to control their emotions when they saw for themselves the narrow little bridge which represents one of the greatest barriers," he told the Jordan Times.

Journalists were supposed to accompany the delegations to the bridge, but most missed out due to a confusion over the precise timing and schedule. Many taking part in the visit were reported to have raised pro-Palestinian slogans right at the bridge under the very nose of the Israeli soldiers across the river.

Some of them who have visited the bridge earlier reported a visible Israeli reinforcement near the bridge, which was reportedly closed by the occupation forces for about four hours, delaying several groups of tourists waiting to cross.

"The visit to the bridge and the march itself were very emotionally charged," said an Arab unionist. "They put the Arab participants face to face with an aspect of the reality of the suffering of the Palestinian people."

Even the unfortunate violence at the end when Jordanian security forces had to disperse demonstrators from proceeding to the bridge was viewed by Arab participants as a dramatic manifestation of the growing popular frustration, anger and yearning to liberate the usurped Arab territories.

One moving moment, cited by many demonstrators, including those who had exercised self-censorship, was the emotionally choked calls by the organisers and parliament members, including Dr. Mamdouh Abbad, Taber Masri and Fares Nabulsi, for the enthusiastic crowd not to cross the agreed-upon point of the march. "In the name of the intifada, in the name of Palestine, in the name of our martyrs, please return, please do not proceed further," pleaded a number of activists unable to hide their emotions, as thousands stood on the sandy hills facing the Israeli check points defiantly waving Jordanian and Palestinian flags.

The question, however, remains: How effective in practical terms will the march be in influencing and mobilising collective Arab — official and popular — campaigns to help the intifada and to promote its national goals and objectives?

Judging by the procedures of the "popular conference," inter-Arab differences intervened to prevent a consensus on practical steps. For example, contrary to expectations there were no practical steps to express

anger at American policies. The final communiqué fell short of urging a boycott of American products.

"Many believed it was premature and perhaps impractical but to a certain extent we have to remember that we still deal with a very highly consumption-prone societies," a Jordanian professional activist noted.

The conference, however, "recommended" that delegations from Arab professional associations be formed to visit the Soviet Union and other countries of origin of Jewish emigrants "to explain both to the governments and Jewish communities the dangers and aggressive repercussions" of emigration to Israel.

Observers could not but point out that the final statement referred to recommendations and not to binding decisions and interpret it as yet another indication of inter-Arab differences and lack of effective effort.

Inter-Arab differences were mainly evident in the rejection of the Syrian delegation of the final statement. In fact the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) transmitted its own final statement, which protested at what it viewed "as timid and conciliatory final communiqué." The Syrian delegation was pressing for a more militant statement calling for armed struggle and the liberation of all of Palestine, according to sources. "We told them that we are ready to back such a statement if Arab governments, or at least Syria, was practically ready to start a liberation war or at least open its frontiers for armed operations against Israel," a veteran Jordanian professional unionist told the Jordan Times.

But, in the final analysis, as viewed by most analysts and observers, it is either the lack of democratic institutions, their control by government or weakness which have so far limited the role of the Arab people in support of the intifada.

Moreover, the Muslim Brotherhood's boycott of the march — citing commitment to Jihad as the only means of liberating all of Palestine — was also pointed out by analysts as a factor that might impede the aspired mobilisation process in countries where the Brotherhood is very influential. "On the other hand, their

boycott might backfire against the movement taking into consideration the overwhelming popular Arab sentiments towards the intifada," an Arab participant commented.

"Nevertheless, the movement, which has been gaining strength in Jordan — including the democratisation process and the solidarity activities with the intifada — is definitely going to help a great deal in generating some form of action in many Arab countries," another Arab professionalist predicted. "The intifada will no longer feel and should no longer be isolated from its Arab environment."

Distinguished leader

By Dr. Lal Baha Ali

ON Dec. 2, 1988, Ms. Benazir Bhutto was sworn in as prime minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. As the heir to the political legacy of her late father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was prime minister of Pakistan from 1971 to 1977, she has the honour of becoming the first woman to head the government of an Islamic country.

Ms. Benazir Bhutto came to power after eleven years of intense political struggle against the military dictatorship of the late General Zia ul Haq. In 1977, General Zia deposed her father in a military coup d'état. Two years later Mr. Bhutto was executed, leaving his daughter to lead the political party he had founded in 1967, the Pakistan People's Party.

During a decade of political struggle, Ms. Bhutto spent nearly six years either in prison or under detention. However, despite the restraints placed on her and the ban on political activity imposed by the military regime, Ms. Bhutto continued to mobilise and guide the opposition. In the process, she transformed the Pakistan People's Party into an effective political platform from which she could call for representative government.

Born on June 21, 1933 in Karachi, Ms. Benazir Bhutto completed her early education in Pakistan. For further studies, she proceeded abroad, and attended Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1959-73), and Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (1973-77). In December 1976, she became the first Asian woman to become president of the Oxford Union, the prestigious debating society where many international figures distinguished themselves in their student days. She obtained a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. Also she completed a course in international law and diplomacy

at Oxford.

The early months of Prime Minister Bhutto's government have displayed her understanding of the political art of compromise and conciliation. She has entered into coalitions in order to ensure the involvement and representation of other political parties throughout the country.

Prime Minister Bhutto has ensured the restoration of the constitution, principle of freedom of association by lifting the ban on student unions in the universities, and on trade union activities imposed under the military regime. She has instructed her law officers to initiate measures for the separation of the judiciary from the executive in order to guarantee the future of independence and integrity of the courts. She intends also to work towards reducing discrimination in all sections of society between men and women. Her government has launched a massive programme of reform in the health and education sectors.

Prime Minister Bhutto enjoys great world-wide popularity; she has become part of popular folklore as a woman of courage and conviction. A place is given to her in the International Hall of Fame in San Francisco, and a wax figure, soon to be unveiled, in Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum in London. She is the recipient of the Bruno Kreisky Award for Human Rights conferred in Vienna in 1988, and the Honorary Phi Beta Kappa Award (1989) presented by Radcliffe College. Honorary fellowships have also been conferred on her by Lady Margaret Hall and St. Catherine's College, Oxford.

Prime Minister Bhutto is married, and has a son and a daughter.

Dr. Lal Baha Ali, visiting professor, Faculty of Arts, University of Jordan.

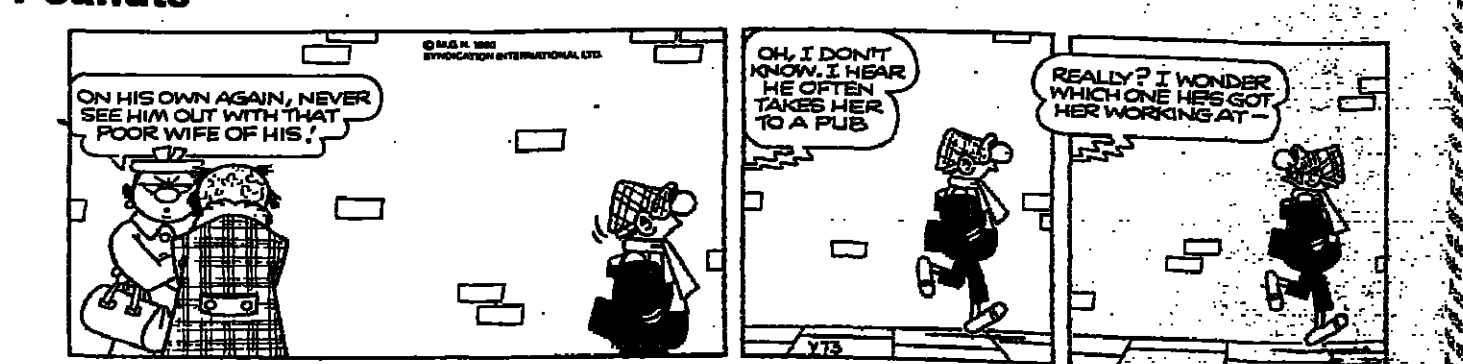
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Ban on male hairdressers — more than meets the eye

By Narmeen Murad

This column was written before information reached the Jordan Times that the government has reversed a decision banning

male hairdressers from working at beauty parlours catering to women.

THE GOVERNMENT'S decision to ban male hairdressers from working at beauty parlours or catering for female clients is not only unconstitutional, it also contravenes a 1980 decision by the Supreme Court rejecting such a measure in the city of Irbid.

Supreme Court decision 24 of the year 1980 published on page 1,619 of the Lawyers Association magazine of 1980 and confirmed again on pages 569 and 570 under article 1,193 of the collection of the Supreme Court principles (second edition) published by the Jordan Distribution Agency stipulates: "There is nothing in the trade licensing law that would ban a man from opening a ladies beauty parlour."

The fact that the country's religion is Islam and Islam does not allow a stranger to touch the "bawra" (translated as private parts in the dictionary) of a Muslim woman does not contradict licensing a woman's beauty parlour to the applicant (who was a man) since there is no stipulation in the license which requires Muslim women to call on the applicant's parlour and (it is left to) every woman who believes in her religion not to allow a stranger to touch her.

Opening a beauty parlour, on its own, does not conflict with the stipulation in the Constitution that the country's religion is Islam and is not a call to violate the teachings of Islamic Sharia, since there are women in the country who do not consider beautifying themselves a measure which would lessen their modesty.

It is obvious from the text of the law above that the government does not have to respond to pressure from the Islamist groups, which proposed this law at the Lower House of Parliament in the first place, and thus infringing upon the civil liberties of a large sector of society whose rights are protected by the Constitution.

Although seemingly insignificant on its own, the government's decision is only a step in a line of concessions to accommodate what is believed to be the will of the Islamists. The government cannot interpret democracy in this manner, as is obvious by the ruling of the Supreme Court 10 years ago.

Obviously, the Supreme Court's decision has larger implications than the issue of hairdressers at hand. It places a clear distinction between the Constitution's stipulation that

the country's religion is Islam and the issuance of laws which limit the personal freedoms of the general public.

The ruling stresses and highlights one of the basic tenets of democracy, which is freedom of choice. The Constitution obviously stipulates that all citizens, regardless of sex or origin, are equal in rights and obligations. So, the Constitution guarantees the hairdressers the right to choose the type of work they want and denies the issuance of a law which would differentiate between one citizen from another in the name of protecting morality.

This is the Constitution that we have been clinging to as the foundation of the democratic march in Jordan.

However, the legal argument does not end there. The Constitution also stipulates that personal liberty is protected. This particular article is one of very few articles in the Constitution that was not tailored with a limiting stipulation governing it by laws. Absolutely no one can infringe on this article in the Constitution; not even the government. This article obviously allows women the liberty to choose the place they want to have their hair done and goes as far as protecting it.

Reference to legal documents and the articles of the Constitution in this matter is not done because hairdressing is a national security issue that needs legal analysis. It is only

because the government's decision is an outright attack on legal norms and on the articles of the Constitution and as such it subjugates women to the whims and fancies of political groups that aim to limit the freedom of Jordanian citizens in the name of democracy and the rule of the majority.

If the government is going to continue submitting to the de-

dominated society is being faithfully represented in the government, which, lost for something to pacify some deputies with, opted to infringe upon the rights of women, who do not matter and will not matter until real democracy influences this country.

The real problem is that the public at large is not concerned right now because this particu-

THE Constitution stipulates that personal liberty is protected. This particular article is one of very few articles in the Constitution that was not tailored with a limiting stipulation governing it by laws. Absolutely no one can infringe on this article in the Constitution; not even the government. This article obviously allows women the liberty to choose the place they want to have their hair done and goes as far as protecting it.

mands of these groups, I am afraid, it will not be long before women get confined to their homes and their "divine role" of motherhood and house-keeping.

The government, which must abide by the Constitution, seems now to be turning against what is generally believed by men to be the weaker sex, women. It seems that our male-

lar decision touches on the men's need to be the decision-makers and only limits the civil rights of women. But what is next?

Will male gynaecologists be banned from treating their patients in the name of morality? Will private companies be required to segregate their female employees from their male employees? Will all men be re-

quired to grow beards and wear white thoub's? Where does this violation of personal choice and civil liberty stop?

Again, the issue is not over male hairdressers and their livelihood or the fancies of women over their looks. The issue goes much deeper than that. It is an issue of the basic human and civil rights of citizens in a country which faces external political and military threats as well as severe economic problems.

The question asked by many who were shocked by the government's decision is: "Have the executive and legislative authorities already completed all the measures needed to rectify Jordan's economic problems?" Only in such a situation would the government and the Lower House of Parliament be allowed to shift their efforts to issues such as hairdressers.

Has the land of Palestine been returned to its original owners, Palestinians (men and women)? Only then would the people who were overjoyed over the prospect of electing persons capable of handling pressing economic and political issues accept the discussion of issues as insignificant to the country as hairdressers. Male hairdressers won't bring Palestine back.

When we are only taking the first steps towards national economic and political reforms, does it seem necessary to the

government to dictate such policies which are obviously infringing upon the freedom of others?

The answer seems simple. Some deputies have made loud pledges to their constituencies to introduce social reform, along with economic and political reform. They feel incapable of providing the more important pledges so they are turning to insignificant issues to show that they are doing something. Well, they are not. And the people will not be fooled by these decisions. When the majority of the public is finding trouble making ends meet they will not be pacified by the fact that their daughters, wives and mothers are not going to male hairdressers.

The only route now open to the women and men of this country who believe in the introduction of a healthy society, economically, politically and socially, is to stand up to these trends and refute them legally. The era of sitting down and waiting should be over.

The men and women of this country have sat down and watched as the Constitution was violated again and again over issues pertaining to the status of women in this society. They watched as the Passport Department required women to provide letters from their "male guardians" allowing them to acquire passports, a right that is

constitutionally guaranteed to all citizens regardless of sex. Women watched as brothers killed sisters, fathers killed daughters in the name of morality and "family honour." These are not issues that only upset women, they upset men who hold their mothers, sisters, daughters and female relatives in high esteem, and who respect the role of women in society. When is it going to end?

It is about time that women in this country started proving that they do not need government-imposed laws to guard their honour or morality. Who, by constitutional right, can dictate that women would not know how to behave if their passports were not governed by male guardians? Absolutely no one. The government ban on male hairdressers proves that there is a last-ditch attempt by the patriarchal society to tie another knot in the rope that has been holding women by the neck in the name of protecting them. Women are able human beings who have been blessed with minds of their own and should be treated as such. It is time that this society started to comprehend that morality and discipline are personal traits that cannot be dictated through laws. And women will no longer be scapegoats for influential men who are looking to pacify political groups looking for ways to pacify certain — but by no means at all — segments of society.

Final hearing set for Monday on 'Qadiani' case

By P.V Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A Jordanian accused of being a member of the outlawed Qadiani sect of Islam has been given until Monday to produce a written explanation of his intentions when he signed a paper in 1987, seen by the court as pledging allegiance to the mystical group but refuted by the defendant in the controversial case.

The Sharia prosecutor-general Wednesday completed the presentation of documents to the court, including a paper signed by the accused on June 17, 1987, pledging allegiance to the Qadianis. Nour Sharif Court Judge Khaled Ouricqat told the Jordan Times: "It was the third hearing of the case, and the court will complete its deliberations Monday after reviewing the explanation to be submitted by the defendant," he said in a telephone interview.

According to the judge, the accused, journalist and writer Ibrahim Abu Naab, told the court Wednesday that "there was a purpose behind his signing of the documents and this would be explained in the paper he is expected to submit to the court by Monday."

If found guilty, the accused could be ordered separated from his wife and children on grounds that the marriage was null and void in

Islam, his property confiscated and subjected to further punishments prescribed in Islamic law against "apostates," including imprisonment and immunity for anyone who sheds his blood if he continues to adhere to his beliefs. However, the proceeds could be reversed if the "apostate" publicly repents but he would have to "renounce" his wife under a new marriage contract if he wishes to be reunited with his family.

In the meantime, a court decision taken earlier last week to separate Abu Naab from his wife has been withdrawn. Judge Ouricqat said that "the decision was a precautionary separation, and the court requested the governor of Amman to freeze the implementation of the order."

The order was issued Monday at the second hearing of the case, when Nafaa Abu Naab, son of the accused who attended the session, was sentenced for one week in jail for "contempt of court." Nafaa Abu Naab, a young businessman, spent one day and night at the Jawahiriya prison before being released after "his father petitioned the court," Judge Ouricqat told the Jordan Times.

But, according to Abu Naab, the order was withdrawn after the governor of Amman contacted various other authorities in the country, including the chief Islamic justice, and decided that he (the governor) could not carry it out. The governor could not be reached for comment. The case is the second in recent

times in Jordan related to the Qadianis, an offshoot of the Ahmadiyah sect which was founded in the town of Qadian in Punjab, India, in 1829 by Mirza Gulam Ahmad (1839-1908), who claimed himself to be a "reappearance (buruz) of the Prophet Muhammad, the Christian Messiah and a reincarnation of Lord Krishna, 'reversed as the 'lord' protector in Hinduism."

According to Judge Ouricqat, the prosecution of Qadianis under Islamic law draws its legal base from the Holy Koran and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad. The World Islamic League has issued a fatwa (religious decree) clearing the way for prosecuting Qadianis under Islamic law, a lawyer noted.

The earlier case heard in Jordan and tried by the same court about six weeks ago involved Taber Kazaz, a businessman. According to Judge Ouricqat, the court found that Kazaz was the leader of Qadianis in Jordan. Kazaz was ordered "separated" from his wife but when he "repented", all proceedings against him were withdrawn and he "renounced" his wife.

According to Abu Naab, the Sharia prosecutor-general, Abdullah Shamsyeh, who filed the case against him in the name of public right, is also demanding that the accused be banned from writing as well as from translating and interpreting the Holy Koran. Abu Naab confirmed that he had attended a world conference of Qadianis held in London in June 1987 after he was approached by the sect for media coverage of the event. "I was accompanied by my son, and I paid for the air fare and

other expenses," he told the Jordan Times. "It was strictly a professional assignment as a journalist. The paper that I signed was only aimed at gaining entry to the closely-guarded sanctuary of the Qadianis with a view to obtaining in-depth information on the sect."

"I was only exercising the right of a journalist to take the various options available to gather information," he said. "It is true that I signed the paper, but the paper does not say that I owe my allegiance to the Qadianis."

In fact, joining the Qadianis involves a complex procedure, he said. "One has to undertake to pay 16 per cent of his annual income and bequeath 10 per cent of all assets to the sect, in addition to a pledge to carry out all orders issued by the group's leadership. Only then could one be considered a Qadiani."

Furthermore, he said, "my son and myself left the London conference before it concluded since we were convinced that the entire thing was a falsehood." "The paper that I signed was apparently given to the court by the Qadianis themselves, who became my enemies after I exposed them," Abu Naab said and referred to an Arabic-language book he published in 1989 entitled "The Qadianis Explode from Within." The book explains the beliefs and customs of the Qadianis, who have a strong presence in Britain, Pakistan and some regions of India and small communities in West Africa and the United States. The doctrine of the Ahmadiyah sect, condemned by Islamic religious leaders, includes a contention that Jesus Christ feigned death and resurrection, and fled to

India where he died at the age of 120, and an interpretation that jihad (holy war) is a battle against unbelievers to be waged by peaceful means rather than by violence.

By all accounts, the Qadiani sect, which broke away from the mainstream Ahmadiyah group after the death of Mirza Gulam Ahmad, is believed to have a strong financial base and its members are zealous missionaries, preaching Ahmadi beliefs as the one true Islam with Mohammad and Mirza Gulam Ahmad as prophets. The grandson of Mirza Gulam Ahmad is currently the "emir" of the sect.

The Ahmadiyah sect, which is now believed to be stronger in Egypt than elsewhere, including its place of origin, according to some accounts, considers Gulam Mirza Ahmad only as a reformer (mujaddid).

Most Islamic countries have outlawed both the Ahmadiyah and Qadiani sects. Abu Naab told the Jordan Times that attending the London conference was his first close encounter with the Qadianis and the gathering "convinced (him) that the sect was doomed" and that he had "told its leaders that the year 1989 (the centenary of the group) will witness the beginning of the end for the Qadianis."

In fact, Hassan Odeh, a third-generation Qadiani from Palestine, told me in 1989 that my words had been proven true," Abu Naab said. "Odeh was the leader of the Qadianis in the Middle East, and he quit the group in 1989." No definite figure on the number of Qadianis in Jordan is available but knowledgeable sources would not put it higher than half a dozen.

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Shamir

(Continued from page 1)

Shamir ruled out a new alliance with Labour.

"I did not discuss this possibility with Labour Party leader (Shimon) Peres and I think it is not realistic today," he said.

In other developments, Labour announced it would delay by 10 days the publication of an internal report placing blame for the party's poor showing in the 1988 parliamentary elections and 1989 municipal balloting.

The report, which reportedly criticised Peres, was to have been published Thursday. It is expected to boost the campaign by former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to oust Peres as party boss. Peres Thursday tried to diminish the expected impact of the report, saying on Israel army radio:

"We don't speak of guilt or a crime here but of a theoretical thing, how to run an elections campaign. Some can say it should be done this way, some another... I think this report was lost because of exaggerated, irresponsible leaks."

Rabin, who served as defence minister in the last government, has demanded elections for party leader, he held by next week.

Peres has agreed in principle to a vote but said the party should wait at least until it becomes clear whether Shamir will be able to form a government.

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German cabinets approve economic union treaty

BONN (R) — The cabinets of East and West Germany approved Friday a treaty on currency and economic union that will launch the two states formally on the road to political unification.

The treaty, introducing West Germany's currency and its free-market economic system into East Germany from July 1, was to be signed by Bonn's Finance Minister Theo Waigel and East Berlin's Walter Roesberg in Bonn later Friday.

The signing, just six months after hardline communist rule installed in East Berlin after World War II collapsed in a peaceful revolution, marks the beginning of the end of East Germany's existence as a separate state.

"The common economic order of both German states will be

(West Germany's) social market economy," said a Bonn Finance Ministry statement announcing Western approval.

"With the beginning of the monetary, economic and social union on July 1, the conditions for a broad influx of private capital and a rapid economic recovery in the German Democratic Republic will be created."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition made a last review of the treaty before the Bonn cabinet approved it.

In East Berlin, a government spokesman said the cabinet

approved the document. A 16-member delegation led by Prime Minister Lothar Maiziere then left for Bonn for the signing ceremony.

"This treaty demands from East Germany... the willingness, on the road to German unity, to give up a large part of its sovereignty into the hands of the West German government and Bundesbank (central bank)," Otto Lamsdorff, leader of the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP), told a party meeting in Bonn.

The FDP is the junior partner in the coalition led by Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU).

Unity fund

The Finance Ministry said the Bonn cabinet had also approved a

"German unity" fund to help finance unification and a second supplementary budget of three billion marks, largely start-up aid for a new East German pension and social security system.

The "German unity" fund, agreed Tuesday, will make available 115 billion marks to East Germany.

The second supplementary budget makes clear: Tax increases are not necessary to finance German unity," the Finance Ministry said.

CDU and FDP parliamentarians gave their backing to the treaty before a cabinet meeting chaired by Kohl after his return from talks in Washington with President George Bush.

"Rarely has our party decided on matters of comparable weight

and importance," Alfred Dregger, parliamentary leader of the CDU, told his colleagues.

Dregger, noting that the treaty was being signed six months and nine days after the Berlin Wall was opened November 9, said the two Germanys should press ahead to full unification as quickly as possible.

"We want to use this historic moment. Circumstances have never been more auspicious," he said.

Kohl hopes all-German elections to a new parliament in December this year or January 1991 will complete the unification process.

East Germany's conservative-led coalition, elected in the country's first free elections in March, will have to make the hard deci-

sions on restructuring its antiquated industry that could lead to mass unemployment.

In the longer term, both countries hope Western-style free markets will produce an "economic miracle" similar to that enjoyed by West Germany in the post-war years.

West Germany revealed the extent of East Germany's debts Thursday — a figure kept secret by the country's former Stalinist rulers.

Finance Minister Waigel gave the information at a news conference to mark the end of talks on a state treaty.

"The East German budget will have a deficit of 33 billion marks (\$20 billion) in the second half of 1990 and one of 53 billion marks (\$32 billion) in 1991."

COCOM trade changes may cause problems for Moscow

By Catherine Arnst
Reuters

LONDON — Western allies appear ready to rewrite their restrictions on electronics exports in a way that could freeze out the Soviet Union while permitting its former satellites access to the latest in high technology.

But trade experts said any discrimination against the Soviet Union would be ineffective in the long run because Moscow was unlikely to settle for third-rate technology while the rest of the Warsaw Pact was being allowed to catch up with the West.

The East bloc has been barred for 40 years from the latest in computer, telecommunications and other electronics equipment by Western nations concerned that the technology would be used for military purposes.

The restrictions are the work of COCOM, the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, a Paris-based alliance of 17 nations — the NATO members excluding Iceland, plus Japan and Australia.

Ever since East bloc states started winning the right last year to control their own destinies, COCOM's European members have pressed for the restrictions to be relaxed or scrapped.

But the United States, long the most hard-line COCOM member, seems set to bow to

West European pressure, at least in part.

In recent weeks, Bush administration officials have said that, when COCOM meets in June, the United States would support a two-tier reform.

Barriers to technology trade with East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania are expected to be lowered dramatically, while remaining essentially intact for the Soviet Union because of its military strength.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Moshbacher spelled out the U.S. position in West Germany recently, saying that Washington believed in raising the technology level for nations which did not pose a military threat.

But, regarding the Soviet Union, he said: "We support perestroika but the reality is they have the potential to be a great military threat."

"We are not going to turn around and just give the Soviet military the opportunity to catch up with us," he added.

Trade experts doubted such a two-tier approach would work.

"The Soviet Union has been able to get its hands on much of this technology for years, even when it was restricted," said Randy Bregman, director of Soviet and East European services for the Washington-based trade consultant AFPO Associates.

"A lot of these export controls have more political than

practical value," he said. If Hungary or Poland gets certain technology, it won't be long before those products seep through to the Soviet Union, no matter what formal controls exist.

Bregman said pressure for change would also come from Western manufacturers who see better opportunities in the Soviet Union, a huge nation rich in natural resources, than small, poor and landlocked countries such as Hungary or Czechoslovakia.

Trade experts said prolonging the COCOM ban could cause the Soviet Union some short-term difficulties as it tried to modernise its backward industrial infrastructure, particularly its system of telecommunications.

The Soviet Union currently uses telephone switches that are more than 30 years old and has only about 10 phone lines per 100 people, a ratio lower than Hungary, East Germany or Czechoslovakia.

By comparison, the United States has about 90 phone lines per 100 people and the West European average is 60 lines.

Moshbacher argued that even the application of 10 year old technology would help enable the Soviet Union to make big improvements in communications, though it might end up with an analogue dial-up system rather than the digital push-button phones now common in the West.

De Klerk seeks European economic support

F.W. de Klerk

BRUSSELS (R) — A vision of South Africa as an economic powerhouse rescuing an impoverished continent from its spiral into bankruptcy has been a persistent theme of President F.W. de Klerk's tour.

Between meetings with prime ministers and heads of state in four countries over the past 10 days, South Africa's white Afrikaner leader has missed no chance to outline his dream to businessmen and bankers.

"The whole of Africa... is on a downhill course. It is becoming poorer and poorer. If you can become more bankrupt than you were before, then that is what is happening in Africa," de Klerk told Belgian parliamentarians in Brussels this week.

"We cannot accept responsibility for the whole of Africa but we are prepared to accept co-responsibility with our European partners," he said.

Critics including Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) oppose new investment in South Africa before apartheid is fully dismantled.

They argue that economic pressure has helped to bring the end of white domination within view and that renewed economic links would give de Klerk the power to control the renewal that is under way in South Africa.

But sources on de Klerk's plane as he travels through Europe to promote his vision say he is getting a sympathetic hearing.

In Paris, de Klerk dined with businessmen and a socialist trade minister. In Greece he went sailing with industrialists and promised to explore new opportunities for trade.

In Lisbon and Belgium he continued to advocate new foreign investment in South Africa to give his government the means to implement the political reform it proposes.

"I have not come to Europe with my hat in my hand to beg for the lifting of sanctions," de Klerk said in Greece.

Instead, he argued then and later, Europe should re-evaluate its punitive economic sanctions in the light of his reforms and his promise of political rights for blacks.

"The time has come in South Africa for encouragement and not pressure," he said on one occasion.

In Brussels, de Klerk told conservative legislators that sanctions, including a European ban on new investments in South Africa, had not influenced his political decisions but had undermined his ability to implement them.

"Sanctions are crumbling. Our balance sheet is improving yearly. Our debt ratio is among the best in the world. Our trade with Africa has doubled in two years," he said.

Israel looks for a supercomputer

TEL AVIV (R) — Despairing of securing a licence to import a U.S. supercomputer, Israel is considering buying one from a West German firm, an official of the leading Israeli technology institute said Friday.

Professor Brian Silver, vice-president for development at Haifa's Technion Israel Institute of Technology, said representatives of Bonn-based Supremum GMBH visited Israel recently to present a supercomputer.

"We ordered a supercomputer from the American company Cray but we doubt it will be delivered because the United States has refused to give an export licence for it," Silver told Reuters.

The U.S. government bars the export of powerful computers to countries it thinks could use them to develop nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

"That left us with no option. But over the past year a German company which has government backing produced a supercomputer," Silver added.

Supremum's "parallel" supercomputer is based on completely different principles to its U.S. counterpart but is also of great interest to the Technion, Silver said.

U.S. press reports said Washington withheld licences to

sell supercomputers to the Technion and to Israel military industries out of concern over alleged Israeli cooperation with South Africa in developing a medium-range missile.

Western diplomats told Reuters that Israel was angered by reports that the United States was allowing the same supercomputer to be exported to Saudi Arabia.

Though the Technion is state-run, Silver said it did not cooperate with the Israeli government in nuclear development.

"No one at Technion builds missiles and we are not helping anyone either," he claimed, adding that the nuclear engineering department had closed down.

Silver said a new multi-million dollar supercomputer would be used for research in chemistry, physics and engineering.

The West German embassy said it had no information on a visit by Supremum officials but technological cooperation between the two countries was common.

A West German political source said Bonn was generally less sensitive about technology transfer than Washington.

"We are not as touchy as the Americans. They think that any little computer has to be put on the list. For us it's not an issue," he told Reuters.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, May 17, 1990					
Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell			
U.S. dollar	667.0	671.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	439.3	441.9
Pound Sterling	1124.3	1131.0	Dutch guilder	362.8	365.0
Deutschemark	408.0	410.4	Swedish crown	111.1	111.8
Swiss franc	479.1	482.0	Italian lira (for 100)	55.5	55.8
French franc	121.0	121.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	196.6	197.8

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.6925/35	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1740/50	Canadian dollar	
	1.6500/05	Deutschemark	
	1.8555/65	Dutch guilders	
	1.4045/55	Swiss francs	
	34.07/12	Belgian francs	
	5.5550/5600	French francs	
	1212/1213	Italian lire	
	152.77/87	Japanese yen	
	6.0270/0320	Swedish crowns	
	6.4065/4115	Norwegian crowns	
	6.2935/85	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	369.80/370.20	U.S. dollars	

UAE council refuses to allow foreigners to own property

ABU DHABI (AP) — The legislative authority in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has unanimously voted against allowing non-UAE nationals to own property in the country.

The 55-member Federal National Council (FNC), which represents the seven emirates federated in the UAE urged the government to issue a law banning property ownership for non-UAE nationals. The FNC is not an initiative legislation.

"The ban is very important because it has security, economic and social impacts," said council member Ali Al Amiri at a four-hour session late Tuesday.

Rashid Al Owes, another council member told his colleagues that allowing non-nationals to own property would mean wasting the government's resources and exhausting the budget.

Almost 80 per cent of the UAE's 1.6 million total population are non-nationals mainly from Asian countries led by India and Pakistan, Arabs led by Lebanese and Palestinians, Ira-

nians and British.

"We all know that the indigenous population is very limited, and I call for speeding up the law banning some real-estate firms from selling the land to non-nationals under the pretext of investment," said council member Mohammed Sultan Ibn Huwaidin.

Some emirates such as Sharjah have been facilitating the purchase by non-nationals of property as a means of activating the economy.

Council member Salim Al Mahmoud believed that the procedure was "a two-edged weapon" with negative aspects exceeding the positive ones. He warned that this would reflect on future generations.

"The ban of property ownership for non-nationals is a public demand, because violating that is a dangerous phenomenon and we want the land to remain for its owners," said council member Mohammed Ibn Badwah.

There has been no property ownership problems in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MAY 19, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day to delve into all the whys and wherefores of all the principles and precepts that are causing you confusion at the moment.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Beware of getting upset early by a condition holding you back from new plan but later you can look into every phase of promises made and carry through with them.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Don't lead an acquaintance money in the morning or you lose a comrade but you find instead you can discuss joint aims with an associate to good effect.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't do what an official objects to early but later you are able to delve into all aspects of your regular activities, improve them greatly.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your private wishes conflict early with some new desire so put off action while you have a good time at the various amusements you like.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) The practical and the idealistic are at swords point with you this morning so ignore them and put your efforts into getting home conditions as will suit you.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Promises broken early should not be taken too seriously and

instead get into the various calls and visits you have been postponing.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't leave business this morning to try to get some new appeal in your life but concentrate upon the practical and materialistic goals that pressure you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Some pleasure that is too rich for your blood should be put aside in the morning while you get into best means for bringing personal goals into your orbit.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't let tense situation between family member and outsider affect your activities but plan a campaign of action to gain your ambitions.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A communication you receive can put you off your schedule if you permit but try to be steadfast in going after your personal aims.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't let a friend who has little to do take you away from your practical responsibilities and instead put your focus upon any worldly duties.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Decide you won't let an official get in way of your plans and instead think about what is important to you and go after it in a positive manner.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Smoking cigars is good for me! Inhaling develops powerful jaw muscles!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

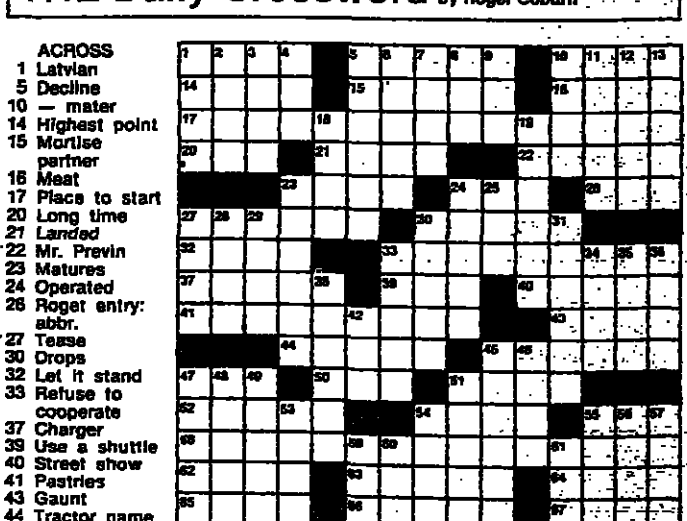
ALYMN
GLIEB
FEXNAL
TESACK

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: FATAL DIZZY INFORM PITIED

Answer: A spy might have to cut out something because the patient this—DID NOT

THE Daily Crossword by Roger Coburn



ACROSS
1 Latvian
5 Decline
10 — matter
14 Highest point
15 Mortise
16 partner
17 Place to start
20 Long time
21 Landed
22 Mr. Previn
23 Matures
24 Operated
26 Roger entry: abbr.
27 Tasse
30 Drops
32 Let it stand
33 Refuse to cooperate
37 Charger
38 Use a shuttle
40 Street show
41 Pastries
43 Gaunt
44 Tractor name
45 Cutting tool
47 Emergency treatment

DOWN
1 Not on time
2 Ravarberie
3 Govt. agts.
4 Mr. Kopsel
5 More banal
6 Sinclair or Jerry
7 Monogram part: abbr.
8 Ho for one
9 Sch. subj.
10 Eng. river
11 Conducts

12 Espouse
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14 John
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16 Money manager
17 Money
20 Be present
21 Very funny
22 acts
23 Mr. Jilian
24 Hey, there!
25 "Brute"
26 Clairvoyant
30 Fixed gaze
31 Marishes
32 Severe
34 Plans
35 Surface
36 Limerick name
38 Eye glass
39 "Alice — Live Here Anywhere"
40 Peace sign
41 Lawmaking body
42 Learn

43 Group of conspirators
44 Locate
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Manchester United beats Palace 1-0

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Leftback Lee Martin scored the goal that brought a trophy and possibly European success to Manchester United as the one-time English powerhouse finally overcame Crystal Palace 1-0 in the Football Association Cup final on Saturday.

The two sides tied 3-3 at Wembley Saturday and Martin's 50th-minute strike settled an ill-tempered rematch that did little to enhance the reputation of English soccer.

It was United's sixth cup triumph in 10 finals and the result means it may be England's representative in the European Cup Winners' Cup next season if English clubs are allowed back.

They have been banned since

May 1985, when rioting Liverpool fans at the Champions' Cup final against Italy's Juventus caused the deaths of 39 people in Brussels' Heysel stadium.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson created the first surprise of the replay, watched by 80,000 fans, by leaving out Jim Leighton, the goalkeeper who will be Scotland's first choice in the World Cup. Leighton was at fault for two of the Palace goals on Saturday.

The first half had all the sour ingredients of the game — gamesmanship, niggling fouls and feuds that clearly carried over from Saturday's 3-3 tie.

Palace striker Mark Bright was shown the yellow card as early as the seventh minute for a late

challenge of Leighton's substitute, Les Sealey, who was on loan from Luton.

And at 27 minutes Palace midfielder Alan Pardew was cautioned for tripping United's Paul Ince.

There was little enterprising soccer. Instead there were unpleasant, clattering challenges, misdirected passes and frequent arguments among players.

Several more players were cautioned for foul play and United's Welsh international striker Mark Hughes became the third player to receive a yellow card.

Palace defender John Salako stung Sealey's fingertips with a right-footed drive on 24 minutes and the United goalie blocked a well-struck free kick by Andy

Gray with his left knee to minutes later.

Martin lashed a free kick into the side of the Palace goal netting just before the break.

Michael Phelan, one of five England international players in United's side, lofted a pass over the Palace defense and Martin beat a defender to the ball before firing into the roof of the net from 10 metres (32 feet).

Within three minutes of the goal, Palace replaced midfielder Phil Barber with Ian Wright, scorer of two goals as substitute in Saturday's game.

But it was rejuvenated United that kept pouring forward and England captain Bryan Robson powered a header against the bar from Neil Webb's freekick.

Bin Sulayem wins Jordan Rally

By Nur Sati

AMMAN — The Jordan Rally came to an unexpected end Friday when Suhail Khalifa, driving a Marlboro Mitsubishi Galant VR 4, finished the rally behind his rival Mohammed Bin Sulayem, after leading the rally for the first day and winning most stages on the second day.

The rally turned out to be the hottest event in the Middle East championship this far. Khalifa was out to revenge his loss in the Qatar Rally, while Bin Sulayem was trying to defend his Middle East crown.

"It was a dog-fight between us, the car performed very well on asphalt stages, and I had the lead until I got a puncture on the Fujjaj stage," said the Marlboro Mitsubishi contender Khalifa at the end of the rally.

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal gave the start signal for 32 cars that roared off in the two-day event covering 1,055 kilometres and taking the drivers 300 metres down from sea level to the Dead Sea to finish the first leg in front of the Roman Amphitheatre, then out north towards the historic city of Jerash to finish the first day at midnight in Amman.

Khalifa took the lead in the first day beating Bin Sulayem by winning most of the asphalt stages and leading by 21 seconds. Issa Halaby, the leading Jordanian driver, was competing in a Ford Sierra Cosworth and keeping a solid third position ahead of Tony Georgiou, Khalifa's teammate in the Mitsubishi Ralliart

and putting the heat back on Bin Sulayem.

The Russian team progressed with Sergei Bousine and Andrei Georassenkov to third and fourth positions respectively in the FISA homologated cars group 'A' and 'N' while the Jordanian driver Mazen Dajani was leading group 'N', driving Toyota Corolla GT car.

Following are the results for both sections of groups A and N and group S noting that group A and N had to strictly adhere to FISA safety regulations:

Position	Driver/Co-Driver	Car	Time
1.	M. Bin Sulayem/R. Morgan	Toyota Cel. GT4 TU UAE	3:35:0
2.	S. Khalifa/M. Al Hajri	Mitsubishi Gal. VR UAE	3:39:11
3.	S. Bousine/A. Oussane	Lada 21074 SU	4:59:44
4.	M. Dajani/K. Zakaria	Toyota Corolla GT HKJ	5:29:0
5.	S. Kuzmichev/A. Malsikov	Lada Samara 21083 SU	5:34:25
6.	N. Dirani/B. Bustani	Opel Manta 2.0E HKJ	5:52:4
1.	M. Khayyat/A. Al Mousawi	Mitsubishi Pajero SA	4:8:57
2.	M. Saleh/K. Khalifa	Range Rover UAE	4:10:19
3.	M. Bustani/K. Al Kasir	Nissan 240 RS HKJ	4:27:20
4.	M. Abu Samra/K. Naber	Daihatsu Char. SPL HKJ	4:31:21
5.	H. Tabbaa/B. Shalabi	Nissan 240 RS HKJ	4:48:9
6.	M. Shishani/A. K. Abaza	Toyota Corolla GT HKJ	5:9:16

Fenech hospitalisation delays Laporte challenge

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Three-time world boxing champion Jeff Fenech was hospitalised Friday suffering from what his doctors described as a viral infection.

The illness will force the postponement of Fenech's fight against Juan Laporte of Puerto Rico for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) super-featherweight championship, scheduled for the Sydney Entertainment Centre on June 26.

Craig Morley, son of promoter Bill Morley, said Fenech had been suffering from influenza for three days, but Friday complained of dizziness.

Morley said doctors diagnosed infections in both ears and had ordered Fenech to rest for at least two weeks. The fighter is expected to be hospitalised at least until Sunday.

A new date for the fight will not be announced until Tuesday, but Morley said the contest may have to be put back until mid-July to fit in with the requirements of the ABC television network in the United States.

Bill Bemon, manager of New York-based former featherweight champion Laporte, said he was hopeful the contest could be rescheduled within a couple of weeks and said Laporte would be staying in Sydney.

Fenech will be bidding to win his fourth world championship when he does get into the ring against Laporte to fight for the title vacated by Ghana's Azumah Nelson.

The Sydney resident previously held the International Boxing Federation bantamweight title and the WBC super-bantamweight and featherweight crowns.

Kenyan favourites fail at Santander meeting

SANTANDER, Spain (R) — Olympic champions Paul Ereng and Julius Kariuki of Kenya were surprise losers in the 1,000-metre and 3,000-metre events at the Santander outdoor athletics meeting Thursday night.

But Briton Peter Elliott's excellent performance in the 800 metres helped make up for the Kenyans' disappointing results and for the last minute pull-out of Moroccan star Said Aouita.

Elliott dominated from the start and romped home in one minute 45.20 seconds, the fastest time this year on the distance.

Kariuki, Olympic 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medalist, was

widely expected to win the 3,000 metres after a leg injury forced Aouita to stay away.

He took an early lead but struggled in third after losing ground to Mark Rowland of Britain and Spain's Abel Anton in the last 50 metres.

Ereng, the Olympic 800 metres gold medalist, also finished a lacklustre third in the 1,000 metres behind fellow-Kenyan Jackson Lokol and Briton John Gladwin.

Nigeria's Yussuf Ali, expected to win the long jump, had to be content with second place in 7.91 metres behind Spaniard Angel Hernandez's 7.94 metres.

YWCA honours winners of tennis tournament

AMMAN (J.T.) — The YWCA spring tennis tournament ended Friday and Dr. Bassel Hameed, president of the Jordanian Tennis Federation distributed trophies and medals to all winners and participants.

In Friday's games, Kyad Shakhed and Saba Kassar won the mixed doubles game while Abdallah Khalil and Lien Cummings came in second place.

In ladies doubles, Lien Cummings and Jo Ann Donovan won by 6-1, 1-6, 6-3, beating Naim Jallad and Shirin Asfour.

In men's doubles, Abdallah Khalil and Samir Rishi won over Kyad Shakhed and Rami Qaid by 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

The closing ceremony was attended by the American and Greek ambassadors and other Jordanian and foreign dignitaries.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TARIK HIRSHI
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SHOW PARTNER THE WAY

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

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♥ K 5 4
♦ K Q J 10
♣ 8 5 3

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♣ A K Q J

The bidding:
North: 1♣, 1♥, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥, 8♥, 9♥, 10♥, 11♥, 12♥, 13♥, 14♥, 15♥, 16♥, 17♥, 18♥, 19♥, 20♥, 21♥, 22♥, 23♥, 24♥, 25♥, 26♥, 27♥, 28♥, 29♥, 30♥, 31♥, 32♥, 33♥, 34♥, 35♥, 36♥, 37♥, 38♥, 39♥, 40♥, 41♥, 42♥, 43♥, 44♥, 45♥, 46♥, 47♥, 48♥, 49♥, 50♥, 51♥, 52♥, 53♥, 54♥, 55♥, 56♥, 57♥, 58♥, 59♥, 60♥, 61♥, 62♥, 63♥, 64♥, 65♥, 66♥, 67♥, 68♥, 69♥, 70♥, 71♥, 72♥, 73♥, 74♥, 75♥, 76♥, 77♥, 78♥, 79♥, 80♥, 81♥, 82♥, 83♥, 84♥, 85♥, 86♥, 87♥, 88♥, 89♥, 90♥, 91♥, 92♥, 93♥, 94♥, 95♥, 96♥, 97♥, 98♥, 99♥, 100♥.

Opening lead: Ace of ♣.

Some might consider it the height of foolishness to bid a slam off two cashing aces. However, when the aces are split between the defenders, it is not always easy to get them.

East-West almost did well on this hand. Their prescriptive tactics forced South to guess at a high level, and he went wrong. Unfortunately, the defenders "forgot" to cash their tricks. Obviously, South would have done better to double five hearts (North-South can inflict a four-trick defeat if the defense is

URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT INVITATION TO BID

Date: 15th May, 1990
Loan No.: 2587 - JO
Bid No.: 12/W2/89

1. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank (IBRD) in various currencies towards the cost of a Second Urban Development Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contract for NORTH RUSSEIFA (2) SITE & SERVICES. Bidding is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined under the "Guidelines for Procurement" of the (IBRD) who have been prequalified by the UDD in October, 1988 and local Contractors classified by the Ministry of Public Works & Housing in the Second grade and above in both fields: Buildings and Water & Sewers.

2. The Urban Development Department (UDD) now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for furnishing the necessary labour, materials, equipment and services for the construction and completion, in phases, of the following:

- (468) residential plots of which (110) have 1 or 2 room houses, within a site of area (204380) square metres approximately.
- Roads with a total area of about (34820) sq.m., and Footpaths with a total area of about (8350) sq.m.
- Water Supply network of diameters (12.5 - 100) mm with a total length of about (9620) m.
- Sewerage System of diameters (150 - 200) mm with a total length of about (7290) m.
- Stormwater Drainage System of diameters (300 - 1200 mm) with a total length of about (400) m.
- Electricity works to be executed by the JEC.
- Civil Works for a telephone networks.
- Screen walls, Retaining walls and other site works.

3. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the head of Tendering Division, and inspect the bidding documents at the offices of the UDD, UDD Marka Housing Project.
Telephone: 889361/ 62/ 63
P.O. Box: 927198
Amman - Jordan.
Telec: 22249 UDD JO

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any prequalified interested eligible Bidder upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD (200).

5. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in an acceptable form of not less than (40,000) JD and must be delivered to the Director General, UDD, P.O. Box 927198 Amman - Jordan on or before 12:00 noon local time, on 17th June, 1990.

6. Bids will be opened in the presence of those Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12:00 noon local time, on 17th June, 1990 at the office of the UDD, UDD Marka Housing Project, Amman.
Telephone: 889361 / 62 / 63
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Eng. Yousef Husein
Acting Director General

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On 20th May 1990

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Reminds all Romanian citizens in Jordan that on Sunday, May the 20, 1990, between 6 a.m. - 11 p.m. in Romania will take place free elections for the republic's president, the members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

All Romanian citizens living in Jordan as well as those who will be in that day in Jordan can exercise their constitutional rights at the Embassy of Romania in Amman (Shmeisani, Jabal Al Weibdeh Al Gharbi, Tel. 667738) on Sunday, May the 20, 1990, between 6 a.m. - 11 p.m. They are kindly asked to have with them their Romanian passports or any other document proving their Romanian citizenship.

AMBASADA ROMANIEI DIN IORDANIA REAMINTESTE TUTUROR CETATENILOR ROMANI CA DUMINICA, 20 MAI 1990, INTRE ORELE 06-23.00, IN ROMANIA VOR AVEA LOC ALEGERI LIBERE PENTRU DESEMNEAREA PRESEDINTELUI REPUBLICII, A MEMBRILOR SENATULUI SI A ADUNARII DEPUTATILOR. CETATENII ROMANI DOMICILIATI IN IORDANIA SAU CARE SE VOR AFLA IN ACEASTA ZI IN IORDANIA ISI VOR PUTEA EXERCITA DREPTURILE CONSTITUTIONALE LA SEDIUL AMBASADEI ROMANIEI DIN AMMAN (SHEMEISANI, JABAL AL WEIBDEH AL GHARBI, TEL. 667738), DUMINICA, 20 MAI, 1990, INTRE ORELE 06-23.00. CETATENII ROMANI SINT RUGATI SA SE PREZINTE LA VOT CU PASAPORTUL SAU UN ALT DOCUMENT CE DOVEDESTE CETATENIA ROMANA.

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Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

Nastassja Kiniski
in
PASSION FLOWER HOTEL

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571

TURNER & HOOD

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Fareed Shwagi — Suhel Ramzi
in
THE SERVANT

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 10:30

Communist past could thwart Iliescu party's coalition offer

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) has offered to form a broad coalition government after multi-party elections this Sunday, but the Communist past could leave the NSF without partners.

Opinion polls predict a majority for the left NSF led by presidential frontrunner and interim head of state Ion Iliescu in the first free vote in Romania for 53 years.

The front has said a national coalition is the best way to rebuild the ruined economy and to erase the executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's legacy of totalitarian rule.

The signs are, however, that such a coalition would be hard to create. The opposition is wary of the links of ex-Communist Iliescu and other leading NSF members to the Ceausescu era and suspicious that the front hijacked control of last December's popular uprising against Communism in a backstage coup.

None of the three main opposition parties have committed themselves to sharing power with the NSF — the National Liberals are evasive on it, the Social Democrats are reserved, and the National Peasants Party has ruled it out.

"We salute the NSF offer to

share power but we have major reservations," Social Democrat spokesman Vadim Aroneanu said.

"The last contested elections in 1946 taught us a bitter lesson. Then the Communists offered to form a government coalition which ended in the elimination of their partners."

The three parties were suppressed in the late 1940s but were revived in January after Ceausescu's overthrow and execution.

Radu Campeanu, Iliescu's Liberal opponent in the presidential race, said in a televised campaign debate Thursday that a coalition would be possible only "when there is a total break with the former Communist system."

His party has said a strong opposition to the NSF, linking the three historical parties on a common policy platform, may be more important to cement democracy.

Its goal would be "to put up a joint, constructive opposition and draft a democratic constitution which should bar any possible return to Communism," Liberal Vice-President Ioan Sandulescu told Reuters.

The right-wing Peasants Party dismisses the front outright as neo-Communist but it has said it would be ready to join the Liberals and Social Democrats in gov-

ernment or opposition.

"They have a well-defined democratic tradition and we do not expect any of them to militate for dictatorship," Peasants Party parliamentary candidate Rasvan Dobrescu said.

Only a handful of the 82 parties contesting Sunday's elections are expected to win seats in the 387-member assembly of deputies and the 119-member senate.

Opinion polls predict the front will win about 60 per cent of the vote but if forecasts are wrong, as the NSF's opponents maintain, smaller parties could gain a pivotal bargaining role.

Chief among them is the Hungarian Democratic Union (H DU), flag bearer of the Hungarian ethnic minority with a constituency of up to one million of Romania's 16 million voters.

The H DU has shifted away from initial backing for the front and one of its leading figures, Carol Kiraly, appealed to ethnic Hungarians Thursday not to vote for Iliescu as president.

Kiraly, an interim vice-president responsible for Romania's 14 ethnic minorities, said on Hungarian-language radio that Iliescu had failed to fulfill promises to defend minority rights.

Meanwhile, an election rally in Timisoara, birthplace of the Romanian revolution, ended

violently as youths beat supporters of the ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) with broken flagpoles.

The rally broke up Thursday after some 5,000 NSF supporters, mainly women, gathered in the city's Opera Square and about 300 opponents began shouting anti-front slogans.

The youths eventually surged onto the podium. Several women who tried to block them were hit in the face or had their hair pulled and were thrown to the ground. At least five were led away with bleeding faces and hands.

About 10 youths, some wearing leather wrist straps with studs, finally reached the platform and tore down flags.

Front supporters chanted the names of Iliescu and Prime Minister Petre Roman. Their opponents believe the two men remain Communists at heart even though they say they reject Communism and all it stands for.

Police and unarmed troops stood by at the corner of the square but made no attempt to interfere or restore order.

"We never tried to break up any of the rallies of other parties," local front candidate Nicolae Dumitru told his supporters. "If our memory of what happened five months ago cannot unite us, then what will?"

Senate approves law limiting chemical weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate approved legislation without dissent requiring the president to impose sanctions against countries that violate international agreements barring chemical and biological weapons.

By a vote of 92-0, the Senate Thursday adopted the bill despite the threat of a possible veto by President George Bush.

The United States and Soviet Union are negotiating cuts in the superpower stockpiles of chemical weapons and reductions in strategic and conventional forces.

But lawmakers said they are concerned about the proliferation of the weapons among Third World countries.

"We have learned anew in recent years of the ghastly and indisputable horror of the use of chemical weapons in violation of international law," said Sen. Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"We must not apply a lesser standard against chemical weapons use than the use of nuclear weapons."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has vowed to use chemical weapons against Israel if the Jewish state launches a nuclear attack.

"Many months ago, I said that the evil genie of chemical weapons is already out of the bottle," said Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas. "It's even more critical today that we do everything we can to see that the genie does not spread its poison more widely."

The bill says that as many as 20 nations are capable of producing chemical weapons and that by the year 2000, at least 15 developing countries will have the ability to produce ballistic missiles capable of delivering the weapons.

U.S., Philippines fail to settle future of bases

MANILA (R) — The United States and the Philippines failed after five days of talks Friday to settle the future of major American military bases in the country.

But a joint statement said they had solved a conflict over compensation and would hold further negotiations on the future of their entire political and security relationship.

No date for the next round of talks was announced.

Hours before the latest talks ended, four men in a speeding taxi fired two rifle grenades at U.S. offices in Manila. Only one grenade exploded, on the fourth-floor window ledge of the building that houses the Thomas Jefferson Library, causing "minimal damage to property," the U.S. embassy said.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Earlier attacks on U.S. targets have been the work of the New People's Army, a Communist guerrilla group demanding withdrawal of the bases.

President Corason Aquino had suggested holding this week's exploratory talks to decide whether or not to negotiate a new treaty on America's largest overseas military facilities.

But at the end, spokesman for both governments said there had been no decision on whether to go ahead with talks on a treaty that would allow Washington to keep Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller installations.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told reporters agreement on the compensation issue meant the two sides could now go forward to hold discussions on the future of bilateral relations.

He said the Manila decision to terminate the current military bases agreement in September, 1991, signalled an end to the "uneven day of lingering colonialism. Henceforth, we shall march forward with our friends abreast, not in tandem."

"It is a new relationship. Let us move on to strengthen it," he said.

Meanwhile, troops arrested three alleged Communist guerrillas, one of whom is believed to have been involved in the weekend killing of two American airmen near a U.S.-run air base, a military officer said Friday.

Officials said they also seized documents indicating the rebels plan to continue attacks.

Record price paid for Japanese netsuke

LONDON (AP) — A collector paid a record £154,000 (\$260,337) for a Japanese netsuke ornament, Sotheby's auction house has announced. The carved ivory netsuke, by the artist Tomotada, dated from the late 18th century. Sotheby's spokeswoman Beth McHattie said Thursday. Netsuke are toggles used in traditional Japanese dress to hold purses onto waist cords. Another netsuke, showing a wild boar sucking its young, sold for \$92,500 (\$156,371), Ms. McHattie said. She said the netsuke, by artist Masanaga, was discovered at a country auction.

Iranian wins poker tournament

LAS VEGAS (AP) — An Iranian accountant now living in England came back from the brink of disaster twice Thursday to outlast a Reno, Nevada, poker player and win the \$835,000 first prize in the world series of poker. Mansour Matlouhi used an anti-climatic pair of sixes on the final hand to top a pair of fours held by Hans "Tuna" Lund and win the final Texas Hold'em event in the competition that crowns the world's poker champion. The final hand win capped a remarkable comeback that saw Matlouhi, playing in his first championship game, twice draw the card he needed to stay in the game on the final draw after he had each time put all his chips into the pot. "I was dead," Matlouhi said. "But when the chips went in every time I had the best hand." Lund had appeared to have the edge after 192 of the players who put in \$10,000 apiece to enter the event had lost their chips and only he and Matlouhi were left to go head-to-head.

Most charges dropped against Helmsley

NEW YORK (AP) — A tax fraud indictment against Leona Helmsley was gutted by a judge who said state prosecutors were putting the self-styled hotel queen in double jeopardy. State Supreme Court Justice John Bradley said he dropped 180 of the 188 counts in the indictment because they are similar to those on which Mrs. Helmsley was tried in federal court last August. "The court threw out the heart and soul of the state's case," said Alan Dershowitz, lead lawyer for Mrs. Helmsley's legal team. "New evidence will demonstrate that Mrs. Helmsley did not evade taxes." "I'm very happy," Mrs. Helmsley, 70, said tearfully as she left court after hearing Bradley's ruling. She suggested that the case against her was brought only because of her prominence. They're after my hide, she said. "I'm innocent person falsely accused and terribly maligned," she said.

Prize offered for proof of Loch Ness monster

LONDON (R) — A London bookmaker offered a £250,000 (\$422,500) prize Thursday to anyone proving the legendary Loch Ness monster really exists. In the last 60 years more than 800 sightings of Nessie have been reported but there is still no concrete evidence that a giant creature lurks in the Scottish lake. Bookmakers William Hill said the prize would be up for grabs during a three-day monster hunt it is sponsoring with local tourist authorities in October.

Stadium sex leads to new rules at hotel

TORONTO (R) — A couple who made love in a hotel room in full sight of a packed baseball stadium have forced the hotel to warn guests they can be seen by the crowd. The Skydome Hotel, built inside Toronto's new stadium, has 70 rooms that give a direct view of the playing field. The couple's sexual performance was a highlight of Tuesday's game between the local Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners. "There isn't a more exciting way to watch a baseball game, but for some people it's more exciting than others," Hotel Manager Ray Thompson said. "What our guests do behind closed doors is their own business as long as it's not criminal and there's no damage. But when there are witnesses the guests are subject to immediate eviction and possible criminal charges." In an earlier incident a guest committed an indecent act in full view of the crowd in the belief that the bedroom window was one-way glass.

Superpowers report arms control treaty

MOSCOW (Agencies) — U.S. and Soviet officials said Friday they had made strides towards reaching an agreement on a treaty to reduce the superpowers' arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons.

"We have always believed the only way to ensure world peace is through disarmament," Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said. "Things are moving in that direction."

Baker also gave an upbeat assessment after nearly five hours of talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Shevardnadze.

The U.S. and Soviet negotiators are trying to reach an agreement on reducing the superpowers' arsenals of long-range missiles, bombers and submarines in time for Gorbachev's summit with U.S. President George Bush in Washington from May 31-June 3.

"We did a lot," Shevardnadze said. "We accomplished a lot today."

On another arms-control front, the Soviet foreign minister told reporters that "major progress" had been made on a U.S.-Soviet accord to end production of chemical weapons.

Last week, Bush offered to halt U.S. production of chemical weapons if the Soviets were willing to schedule the destruction of their poison gas stockpiles. Shevardnadze gave no details of the emerging accord.

Between his talks with Gorbachev and Shevardnadze, Baker said that "some progress" had been made, though he added,

"We still have a number of issues that are still out there."

Asked if agreement on key issues would be ready for the summit, Baker replied, "We keep hoping we can accomplish that."

Earlier Friday in the Kremlin, Gorbachev said the Soviets were doing their best to reach together an agreement on reducing the superpowers' stockpiles of strategic nuclear weapons. The Bush administration had accused the Soviets of backtracking on their earlier positions before Baker arrived in Moscow Tuesday.

The Soviet leader said he did not know if an agreement would be ready in time for the Washington summit, but told reporters, "I think we are moving closer."

Mixed signals also came from the U.S. side, where officials spoke both of continuing gaps and of hopes for an accord. Without a compromise on air and sea-launched cruise missiles and other disputed weapons, the summit will lack the dramatic centerpiece Bush and Gorbachev had anticipated.

The statements by Baker and Shevardnadze were by far the most optimistic to emerge from either side in weeks.

U.S. officials had earlier said the talks were not going well and Baker might have to stay in Moscow beyond his scheduled departure time of Saturday morning.

Baker's statement that he would hold a news conference on Saturday as planned and give details of his talks suggested agreement was in sight.

Liberian rebel chief excludes immediate elections

TAPETA, Liberia (AP) — Villagers waving palm fronds welcome him as a savior. Rebel pamphlets call him "the hope of Liberia." The bureaucrat turned guerrilla leader says he is a God-fearing Baptist who will not become another African dictator.

U.S.-educated rebel leader Charles Taylor is still wanted in Massachusetts for breaking out of jail to avoid extradition to Liberia, but says he wants better relations with the United States.

Taylor presented himself at his first international news conference this week as a friend of the capitalist West and a leader who can restore democracy, honest government, pride and Christian values to a nation destroyed by 10 years of corrupt rule under President Samuel Doe.

But Taylor said his plans for democracy do not include elections for at least three and maybe five years. Until then he said he will "go to hell" rather than share power with other opposition leaders who have not joined his fight against Doe.

"Don't think we are going to turn government over to someone to screw up," Taylor said. Pointing to his ragtag group of armed guerrillas, he added, "We have political ambitions, too."

Taylor invited nine foreign journalists to Tapeta, in the heart of rebel-held territory about 160 kilometers northeast of Monrovia, the capital. Reporters were driven to an American-owned rubber plantation in rebel hands just 72 kilometers east of Monrovia to dramatize Taylor's threats that he will attack the capital soon.

Taylor's promises of elections in a few years are similar to pledges that have led to dictatorships in other African countries, including Liberia. Doe promised democracy when an army master sergeant seized power in a bloody 1980 coup, toppling an elite group of descendants of freed American slaves who founded Liberia in 1847.

At the time of the coup, Taylor said he had been chairman for 10 years of the U.S.-based National Liberian Liberation Movement that helped Doe overthrow President William Tolbert.

"That boy was supposed to return his little self to the barracks and he reneged," said Taylor, referring to Doe.

Taylor said he was inducted into Doe's army as a major in 1980 and placed in charge of a bureau that disbursed government funds. He said he fled to the United States later because of disagreements with Doe, who accused him of stealing \$1 million.

He was arrested in Boston and held for extradition to Liberia in 1984, but escaped from jail.

Taylor said his National Patriotic Front of Liberia has constantly sought contacts with the U.S. government, until recently a strong supporter of Doe.

"The United States has permanent interests in Liberia, and not permanent friends... I would hope that we would have a real good marriage and a real good honeymoon," Taylor said.

White man found guilty in New York murder

NEW YORK (AP) — A jury has found a 19-year-old white man guilty of second-degree murder in the killing of a black teenager in a Bensonhurst, the most serious of a recent spate of racial confrontations in New York City.

Joseph Fama of Brooklyn, accused of being the triggerman in the killing of 16-year-old Yusuf Hawkins, faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life in prison.

Jury forewoman Tonya Bailey delivered the verdict late Thursday after 10 tension-wrought days of deliberations.

Hawkins and three friends were going to look at a car that was for sale when they were attacked by a gang of whites last Aug. 23 in the mostly white Bensonhurst section of New York.

The verdict, the first conviction in the case, was greeted with shouts outside the courtroom by Hawkins' family and supporters.

Mayor David N. Dinkins said in a statement that the guilty verdict allows "us to turn our attention to the process of healing."

"Yusuf Hawkins died of racism in the first degree. That is a crime far more common than most of us are willing to admit," the city's first black mayor said.

Fama was found guilty on 13 of 15 counts, including second-degree murder by depraved indifference to human life, riot, unlawful imprisonment, menacing, discrimination, and criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree.

The defendant was acquitted of second-degree intentional murder — the equivalent in seriousness of the depraved indifference charge — as well as criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree.

A second jury considering charges against co-defendant Keith Mondello, who was tried in the same courtroom as Fama, ended its deliberations Thursday without reaching a verdict.

Chinese leader says Tiananmen Square 'much ado about nothing'

NEW YORK (R) — Chinese Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin, in what was described as his first television interview since coming to power, called the crackdown on demonstrators in Tiananmen Square "much ado about nothing" and said 431 people, including 42 students, were still in prison.

In a taped interview with Barbara Walters of ABC's "20/20" programme, Jiang also spelled out conditions under which dissident Fang Lizhi could leave the U.S. embassy in Peking, where he has been living since the crackdown, and said ousted Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, who sympathized with the students, would not be brought to trial.

Walters asked Jiang, who is also chairman of the Central Military Commission, if he had a Chinese proverb to describe the Tiananmen crackdown. "To give a Chinese proverb, I would say that it's like 'much ado about nothing,'" he said.

The programme aired Friday night. ABC said it was Jiang's first television interview since coming to power after the crackdown last June.

Jiang said, "I don't have any regrets about the way in which we dealt with the events which took

place last year in Peking. Had we failed, in the end, to take resolute measures to deal with those events, then the entire capital of the People's Republic of China would have been thrown into great chaos."

But he said he did not think a violent crackdown on similar pro-democracy demonstrations would take place again.

"We have a proverb in China, 'a fall into the pit, a gain in your wit,'" he said. "I think we learn by our mistakes; that is, we have made adequate preparations in terms of strengthening the police force and storing non-lethal weapons. In this regard, I am ready to learn from all the developed Western countries."

Jiang said 431 people, including 42 students, were still in prison "under investigation" over the crackdown.

Tens of thousands of students demonstrated in the Peking square before troops moved in, reportedly killing hundreds. Chinese officials deny anyone was killed in the square itself.

Jiang said there were no executions linked to the square and students abroad would be safe if they returned home.

"One fact has to be made clear. During the incident, nearly 10,000 armoured personnel car-

riers, army trucks and tanks were burned. And this shows the People's Liberation Army exercised great tolerance and restraint during the incident," he added.

He said that dissidents Fang Lizhi and his wife, who took refuge in the U.S. embassy in Peking, could be allowed to leave the country if they admitted their guilt and the United States guaranteed that Fang would not engage "in activity in the future against the People's Republic of China."

Meanwhile in Mexico City, Chinese President Yang Shangkun was quoted Thursday as saying last year's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators represented a triumph for socialism.

"It didn't hurt Chinese socialism," Yang said in remarks to the Mexican news agency Notimex when asked about the military crackdown in and around Tiananmen Square.

"It strengthened the government's faith in the Socialist system and allowed us to dismantle the seditious plots."

Yang arrived Monday for a four-day visit on the first leg of a Latin American trip that will also take him to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile.

Gorbachev signals flexibility in Baltics

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev said Friday the Kremlin was prepared to examine any possibility to resolve the dispute over Lithuanian independence — provided the Soviet constitutional process is observed.

The prime minister of the breakaway republic, Kazimieras Prunskiene, said after meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that she was convinced he supports the Baltic republic's independence drive.

Baker said he hoped that a meeting between Gorbachev and Prunskiene Thursday would lead to full negotiations aimed at ending the impasse between the Kremlin and the breakaway republic.

"Tension was reported Friday in Lithuania, however. Soviet soldiers shot a youth trying to enter a military compound and military helicopters dropped leaflets proclaiming: 'Down with the government of separatists. Long live Soviet Lithuania.'"

Military officials have complained of several rock-throwing or sniper attacks on Soviet soldiers at military installations. Moscow has used the military to make repeated shows of force in Lithuania in the past.

Supporters of independence gathered around the Lithuanian parliament building Friday to block any attempt by pro-Soviet forces to occupy it, said Eduards Potashnikas, an editor at Lithuanian television.

On Tuesday, Soviet soldiers and anti-independence protesters tried to occupy government

buildings in the two other Baltic republics, Estonia and Latvia, but were blocked by supporters of secession.

Gorbachev has condemned the independence declarations of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, and imposed economic sanctions against them. Until his meeting with Prunskiene Thursday night, the Soviet president had refused to open talks with Baltic leaders, demanding that they first rescind or suspend their independence moves.

After Prunskiene met with Gorbachev, she said significant progress was made towards a settlement. But neither side suggested that the dispute that followed the republic's March 11 declaration of independence had been settled.

Her meeting Friday with Baker lasted for more than hour, twice as long as planned. She said later that she had told Baker about Lithuania's compromise plan and her talks with Gorbachev.

"I became convinced again that the USA as well as other governments support both the restoration of independence and the path we are taking," she said at the gate of Spaso House, the residence of the U.S. ambassador in Moscow.

Prunskiene said she thought Gorbachev agreed to meet with her because of Baker's presence in Moscow. Baker is negotiating with Soviet officials to try to forge arms-control agreements for a summit in Washington between Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush later this month.

Renoir becomes second most expensive painting

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A Renoir painting of an outdoor Parisian dance hall that some thought might sell for more than \$100 million went for \$78.1 million at Sotheby's auction house Thursday night.

The price set a record for a Renoir but fell \$4.4 million short of the record for the world's most expensive painting, set Tuesday at Christie's when Van Gogh's Portrait of Dr. Gachet fetched \$82.5 million.

Au Moulin de la Galette, by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, sold to an unidentified bidder after 10 minutes of tension-filled bidding from two potential buyers on the telephone. The bidding jumped up in million-dollar increments and the crowd gasped and broke into applause when the hammer finally came down.

"Galette became the second most expensive painting of all time, surpassing the \$53.9 million that Van Gogh's Irises fetched in 1987 when it set a record that stood until last Tuesday."

Many dealers had thought that following the Gachet sale the Renoir might become the first \$100 million painting.

Sotheby's auction experts, who had estimated the painting would go for between \$40 million and

\$50 million, said they were pleased with the sale.

"I was thrilled, just thrilled," said Sotheby's impressionist expert David Nash. "I personally thought it might hit \$65 million, but it even exceeded that."

"It's a big, big price," said New York art dealer Doug Walla. "But I think it justified it."

Despite repeated requests from an overflowing press and media gallery after the sale, Sotheby's President Diana Brooks said she could not reveal the identity of the buyer, or even the nationality.

After the Gachet sold to Tokyo art dealer Hideto Kobayashi speculation was that the Renoir would go to a Japanese buyer.

Renoir painted the piece in 1876 as one of two studies of the Bohemian dance hall at the top of Rue Montmartre.

"The Renoir was a special painting. It's much more distinctive than the Gachet," said Walla. "It is the kind of painting one learns from and grows up with in terms of art history."

The Renoir was sold from the collection of New York financier and publisher John Hay Whitney, who died in 1982. Whitney bought it in 1929 in New York for

\$165,000.

The Van Gogh painting sold in New York for a record \$82.5 million was one of several removed from display by the German Nazis in a pre-war purge of non-Aryan art, an expert said Thursday.

"They wanted classical 19th century German art and not anything that was modern," said Stefan Mann, a researcher at Frankfurt's Staeedel Museum.

Mann told Reuters that Van Gogh's Portrait of Dr. Gachet had hung in the Staeedel Museum from 1911, when it was bought from a Frankfurt collector, until 1938, when it was removed by Hitler's Nazis.

"There were three reasons they didn't want it on display in Germany: Firstly, Van Gogh was foreign, secondly, he was considered mentally ill and thirdly they didn't want any decadent art," Mann said. He said the painting was sold at auction in Lucerne, Switzerland, though the Nazis probably did not make much from the sale. "Certainly not as much as its worth now," said Mann.

The honorary chairman of a major Japanese paper company is the buyer of the world's most

expensive painting, the economic newspaper Nihon Keizai said Thursday.

The paper quoted Ryohei Saito, 74, as saying in an interview that the painting "was 5 billion yen (\$33 million) higher than what I expected. But I am extremely pleased with the purchase."

Saito and officials of Daishowa Paper Manufacturing Co., Japan's second largest paper manufacturer, could not be reached for comment after office hours Thursday. Saito was president of Daishowa paper from 1961 to 1982.

Nihon Keizai said Saito commented that "I have been collecting paintings for 40 years, but I wanted to own this Van Gogh painting. Therefore, I asked to make a successful bid no matter how expensive it was."

Saito said he borrowed the money from banks, using his property as security, the paper added.

Asked about the possibility of displaying the painting to the public, Saito said, "I will keep it at hand for the time being for various security reasons. However, I would like to display it at the local Shizuoka Prefectural Art Museum in the future," the paper reported.

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